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ADVENTURE
SERIES

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SEGA

KNUCKLES™

THE ECHIDNA



**PENDERS • SPAZIANTE • GALAN
GROSSMAN • WILLIAMS • PEPOY**

KNUCKLES™

THE ECHIDNA BOOK FOUR



LOST

PARADISE

PART ONE OF THREE

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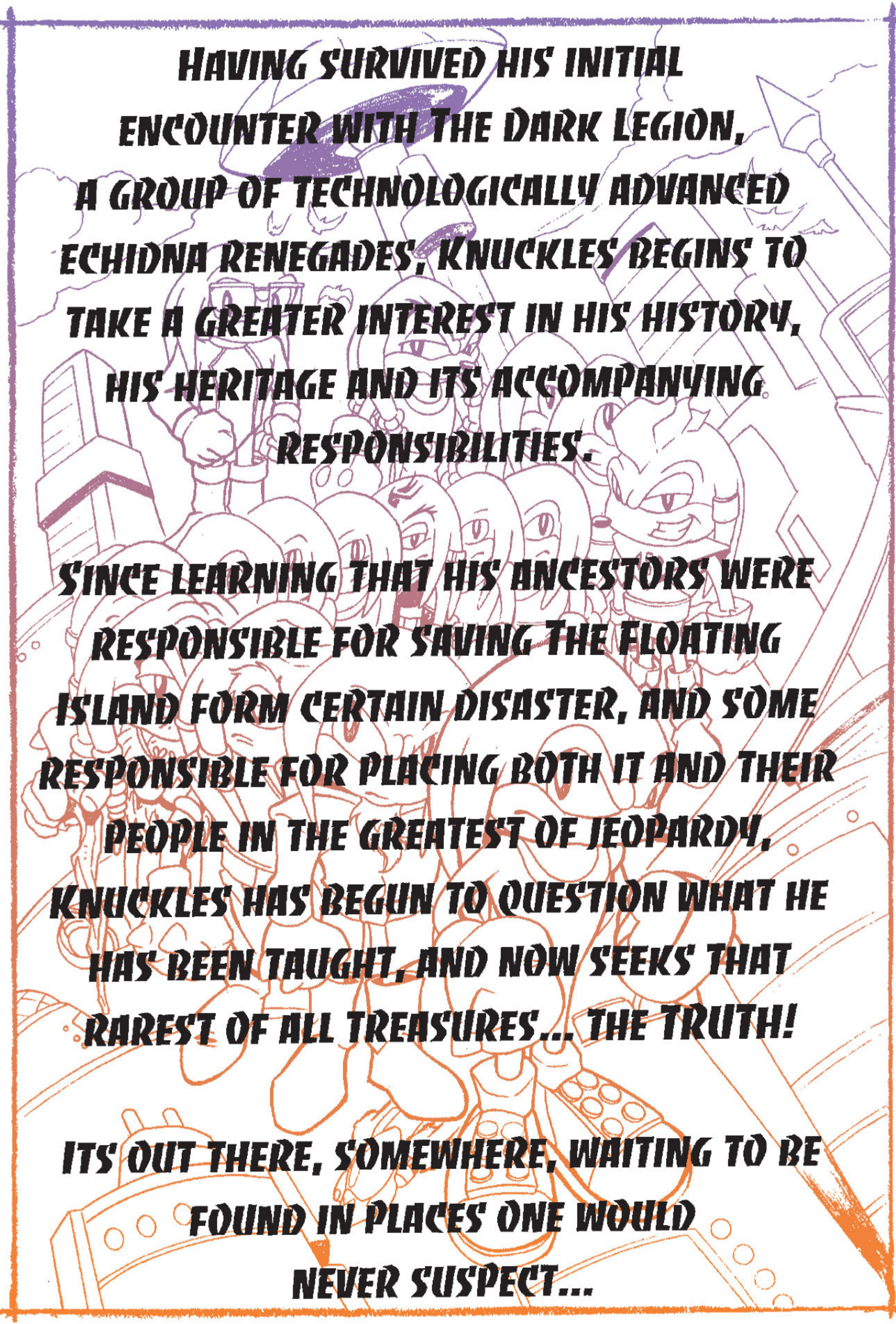
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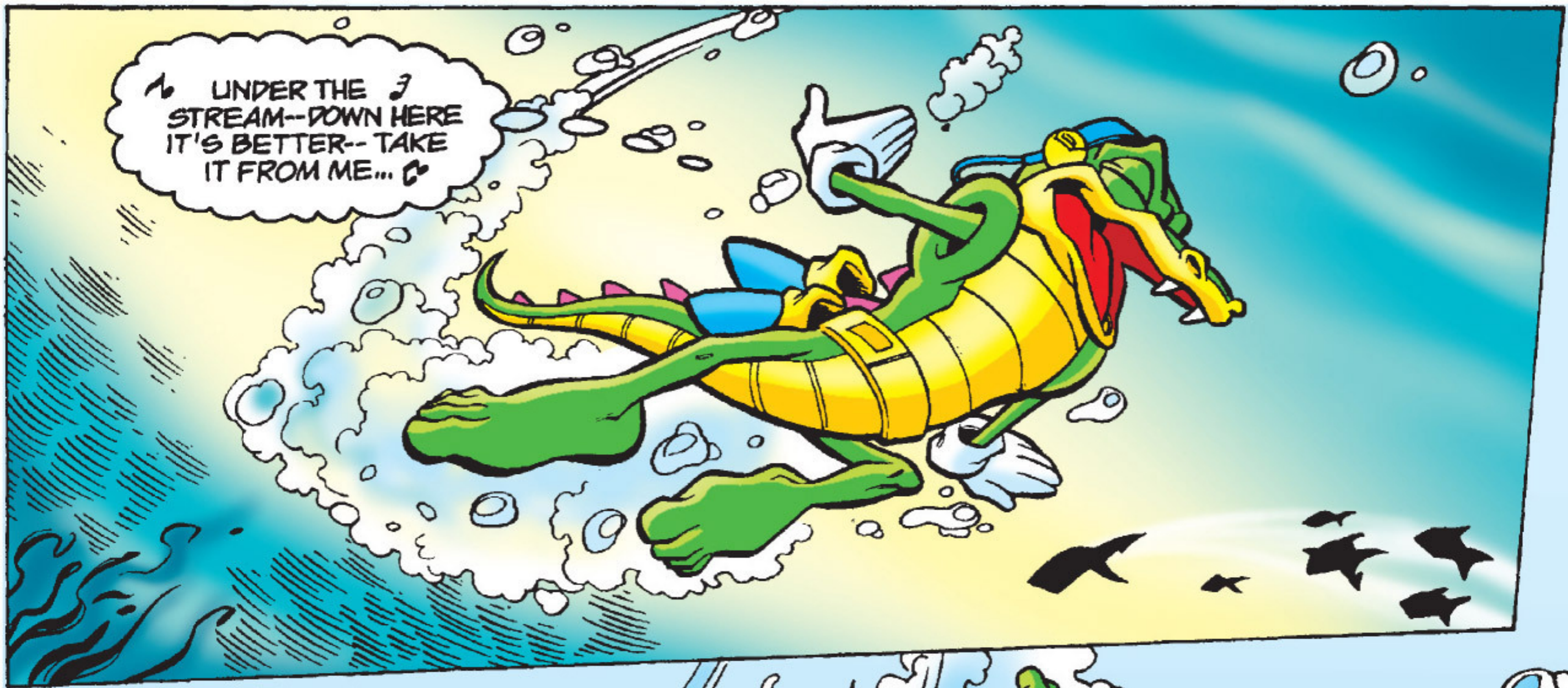
Editor-In-Chief



HAVING SURVIVED HIS INITIAL ENCOUNTER WITH THE DARK LEGION, A GROUP OF TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED ECHIDNA RENEGADES, KNUCKLES BEGINS TO TAKE A GREATER INTEREST IN HIS HISTORY, HIS HERITAGE AND ITS ACCOMPANYING RESPONSIBILITIES.

SINCE LEARNING THAT HIS ANCESTORS WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR SAVING THE FLOATING ISLAND FROM CERTAIN DISASTER, AND SOME RESPONSIBLE FOR PLACING BOTH IT AND THEIR PEOPLE IN THE GREATEST OF JEOPARDY, KNUCKLES HAS BEGUN TO QUESTION WHAT HE HAS BEEN TAUGHT, AND NOW SEEKS THAT RAREST OF ALL TREASURES... THE TRUTH!

ITS OUT THERE, SOMEWHERE, WAITING TO BE FOUND IN PLACES ONE WOULD NEVER SUSPECT...



1 UNDER THE 3
STREAM--DOWN HERE
IT'S BETTER-- TAKE
IT FROM ME... ♪



WHOA!
WHAT WAS
THAT?

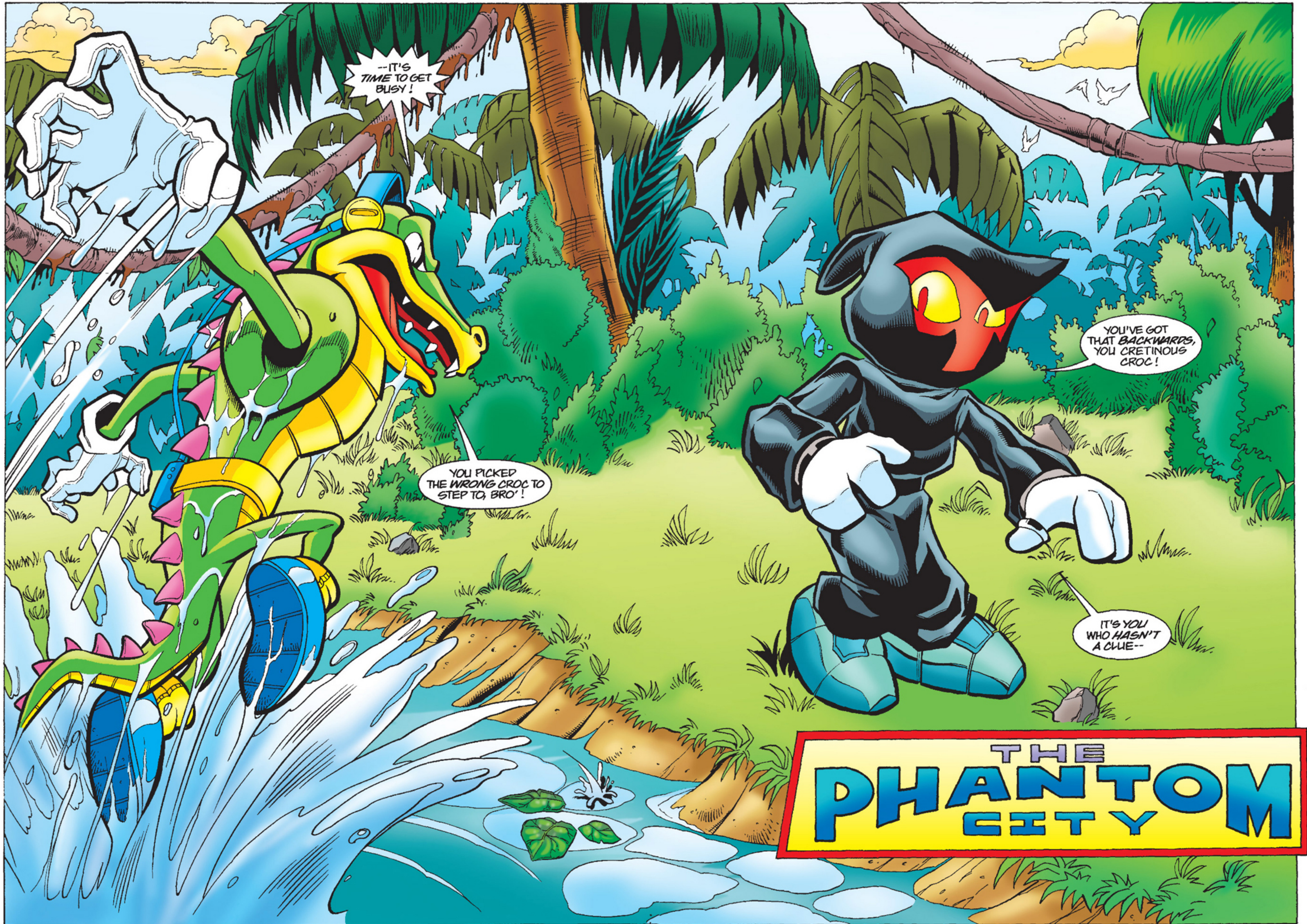
THOSE
SHADOWS I'M
SCOPIN' NEAR THE
RIVERBANK COULD
BE TROUBLE!

YO...YO...YO!

LOOK WHAT
JUST DROPPED
IN!

AND I DON'T
THINK HE'S GOT
THE SKINNY ON
ME YET!

SURPRISE
IS MINE...



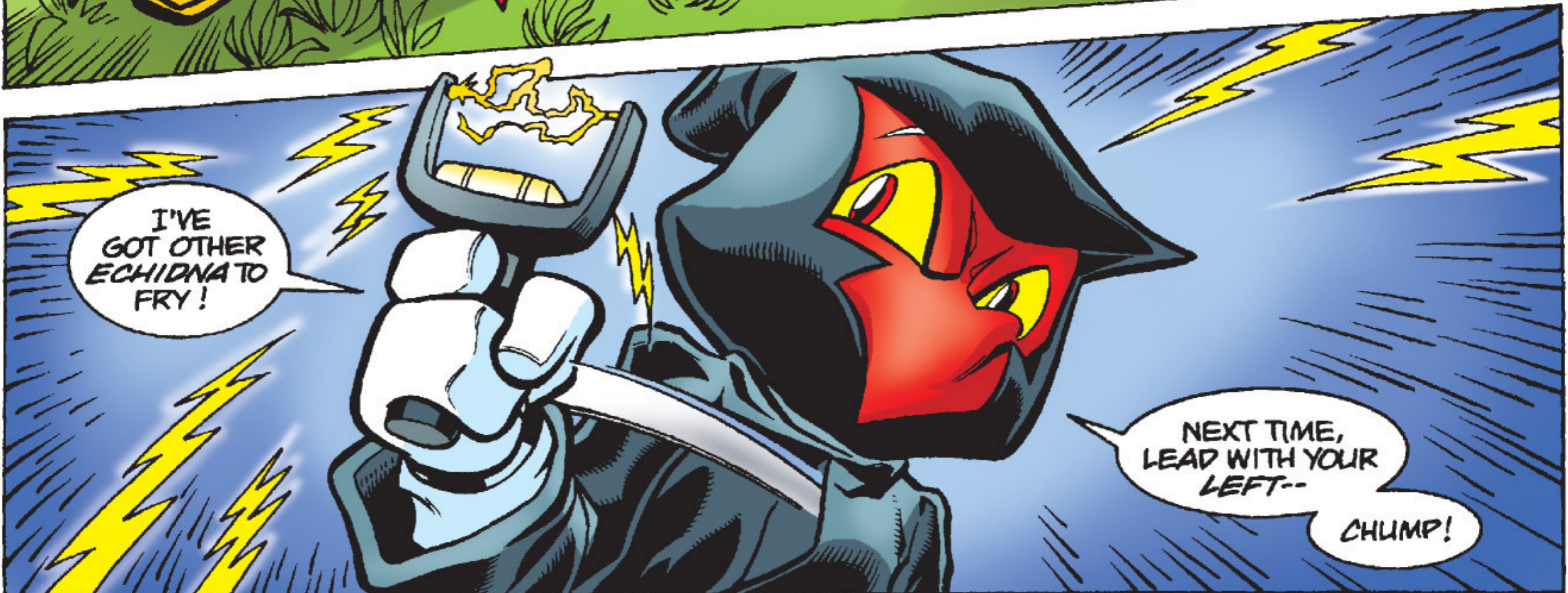
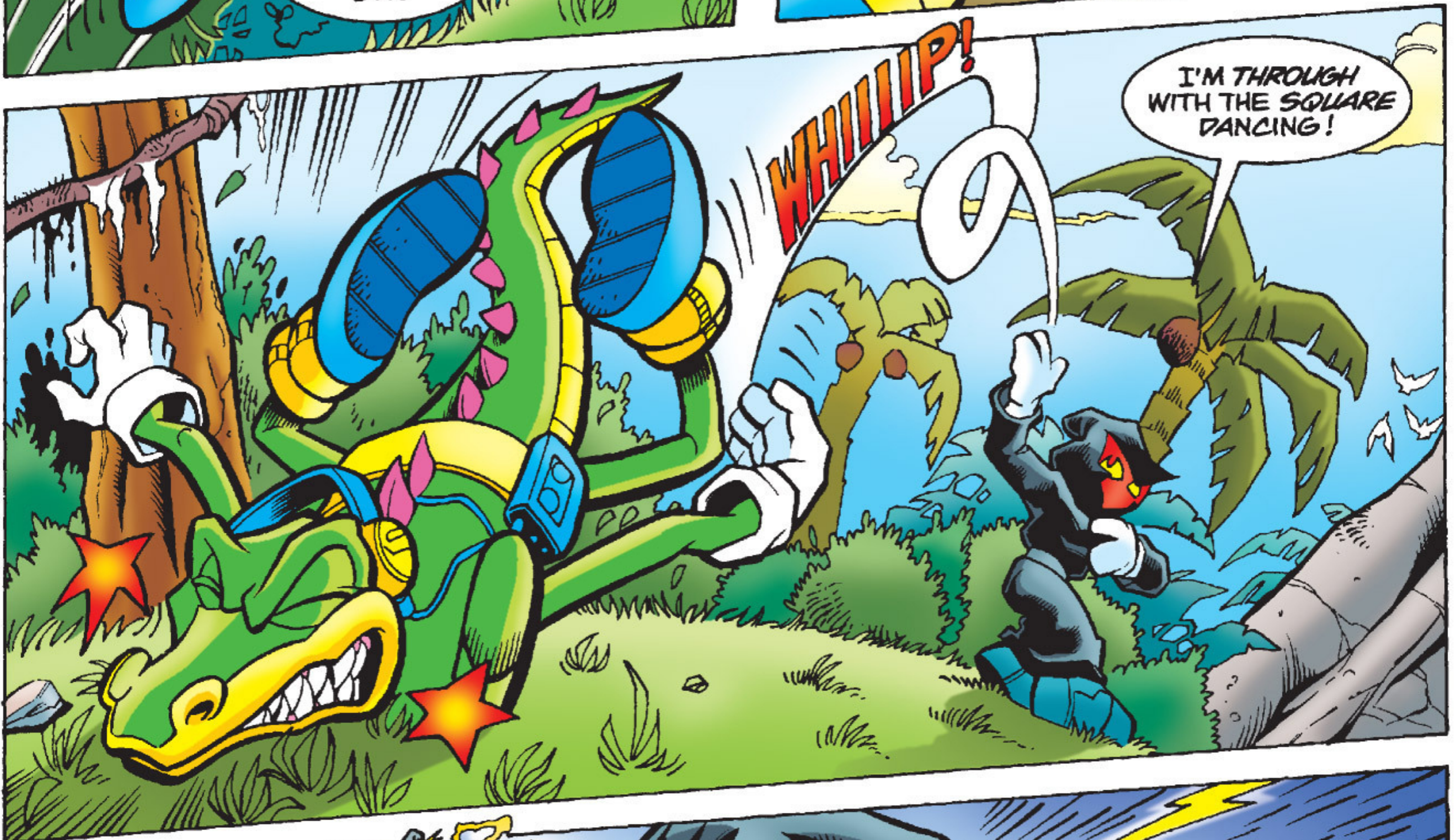
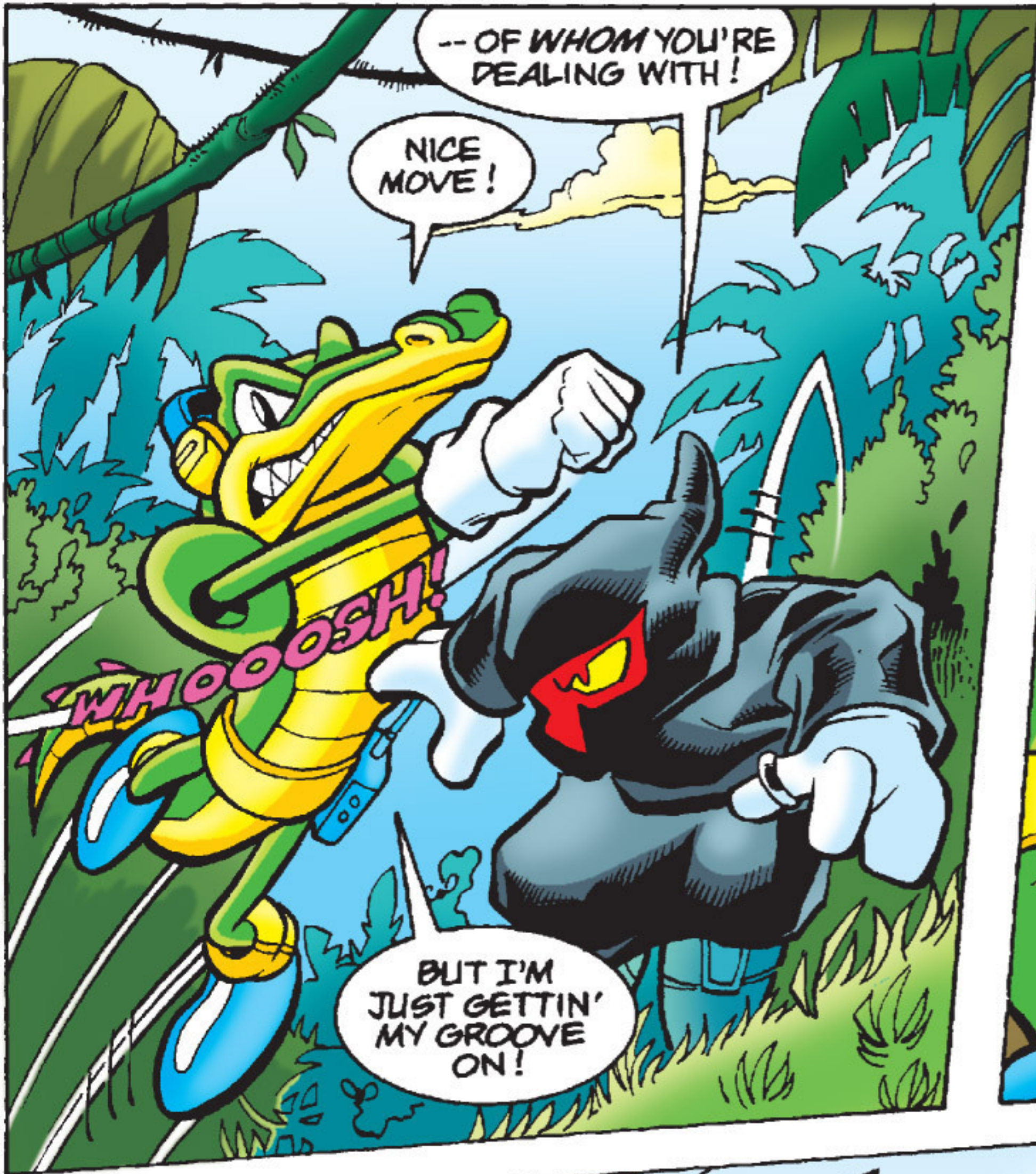
--IT'S
TIME TO GET
BUSY!

YOU PICKED
THE WRONG CROC TO
STEP TO, BRO'!

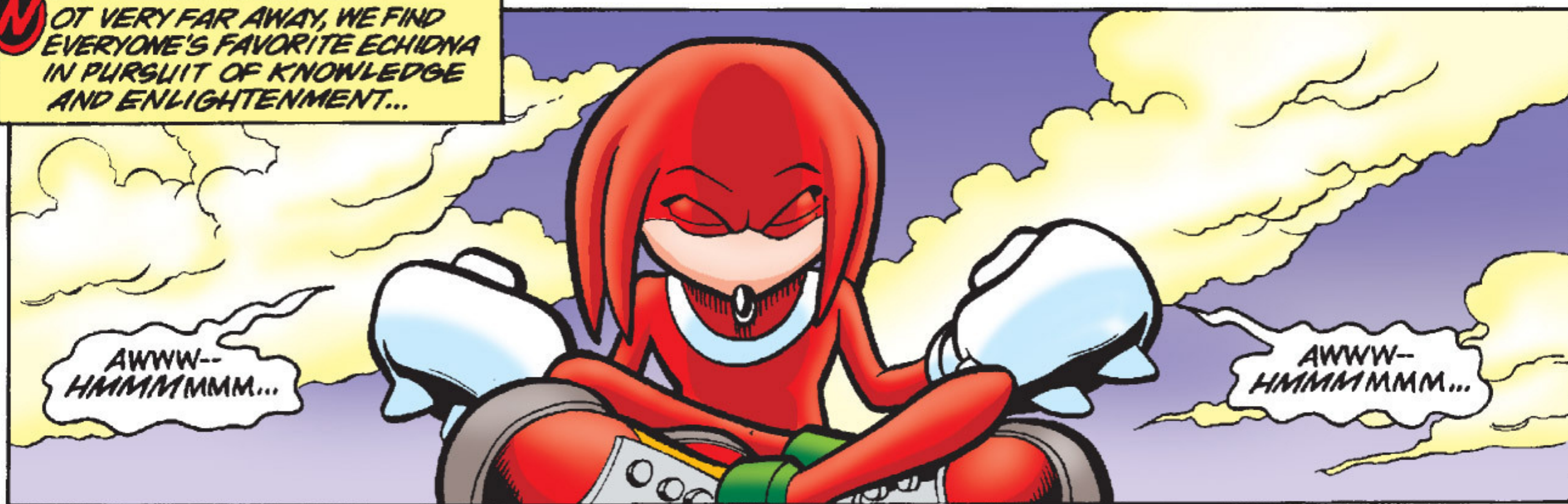
YOU'VE GOT
THAT BACKWARDS,
YOU CRETINOUS
CROC!

IT'S YOU
WHO HASN'T
A CLUE--

THE
PHANTOM
CITY



NOT VERY FAR AWAY, WE FIND EVERYONE'S FAVORITE ECHIDNA IN PURSUIT OF KNOWLEDGE AND ENLIGHTENMENT...

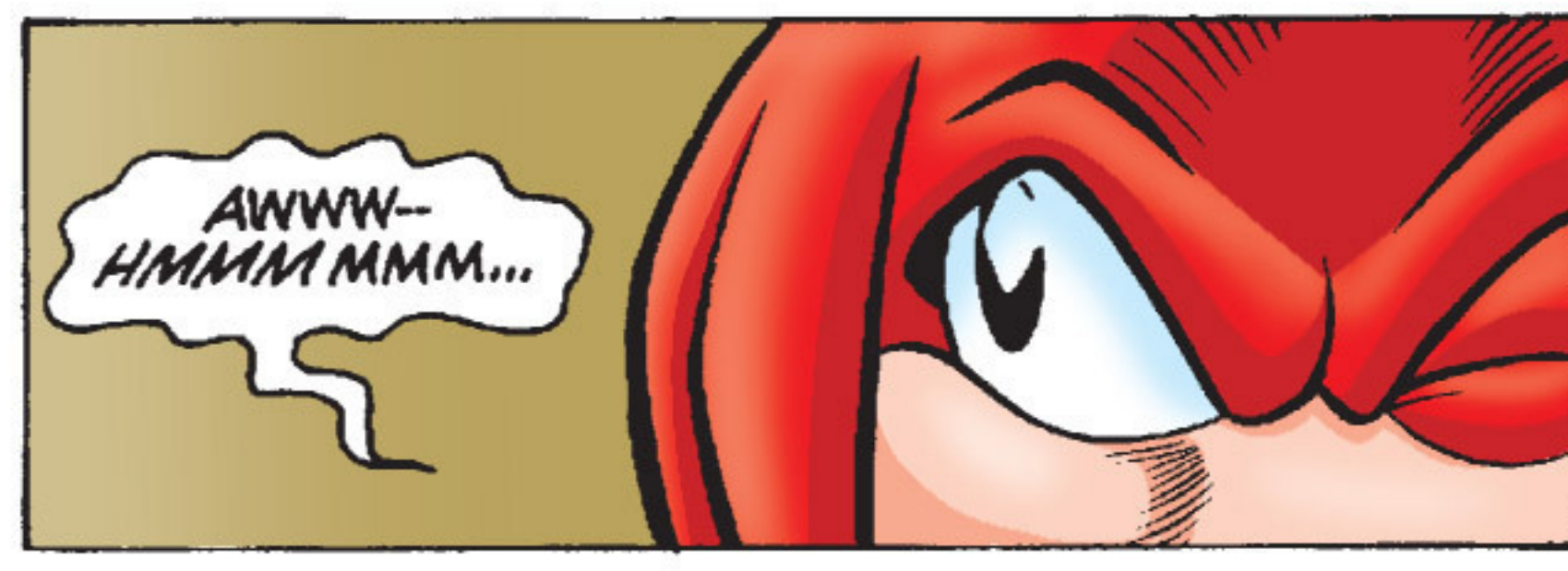


AWWW--
HMMMMMMM...

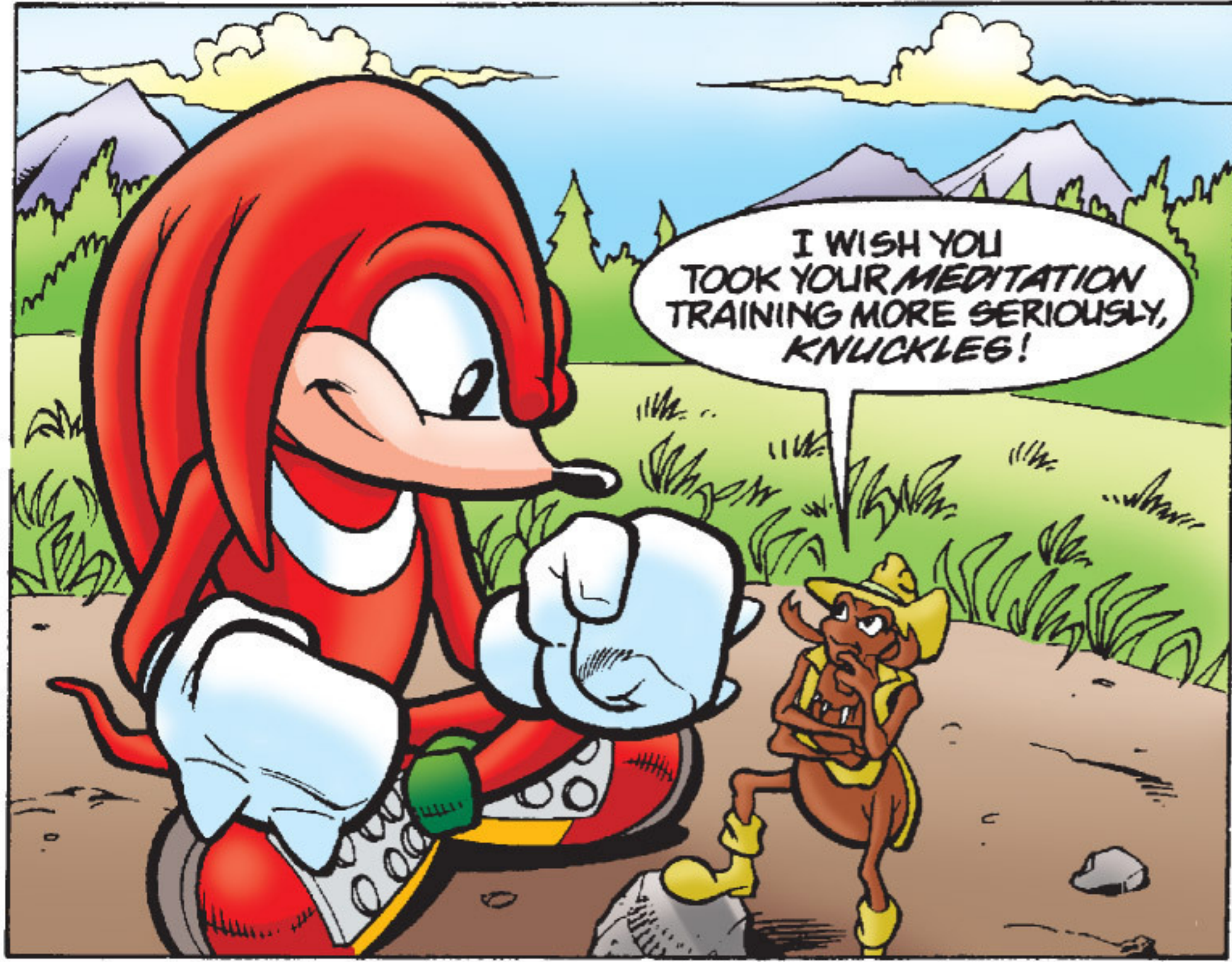
AWWW--
HMMMMMMM...



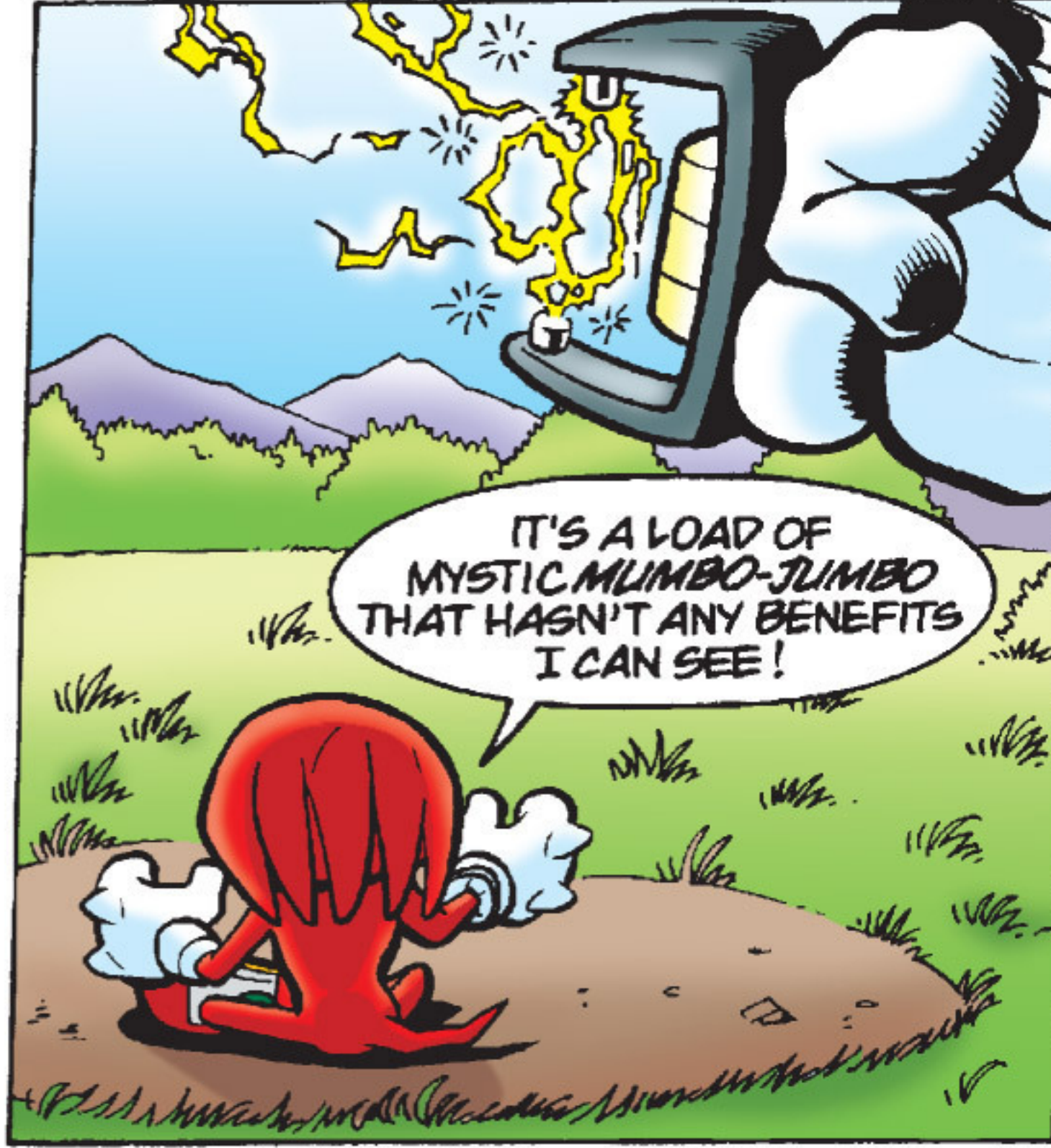
AWWW--
HMMMMMMM...



AWWW--
HMMMMMMM...



I WISH YOU TOOK YOUR MEDITATION TRAINING MORE SERIOUSLY, KNUCKLES!

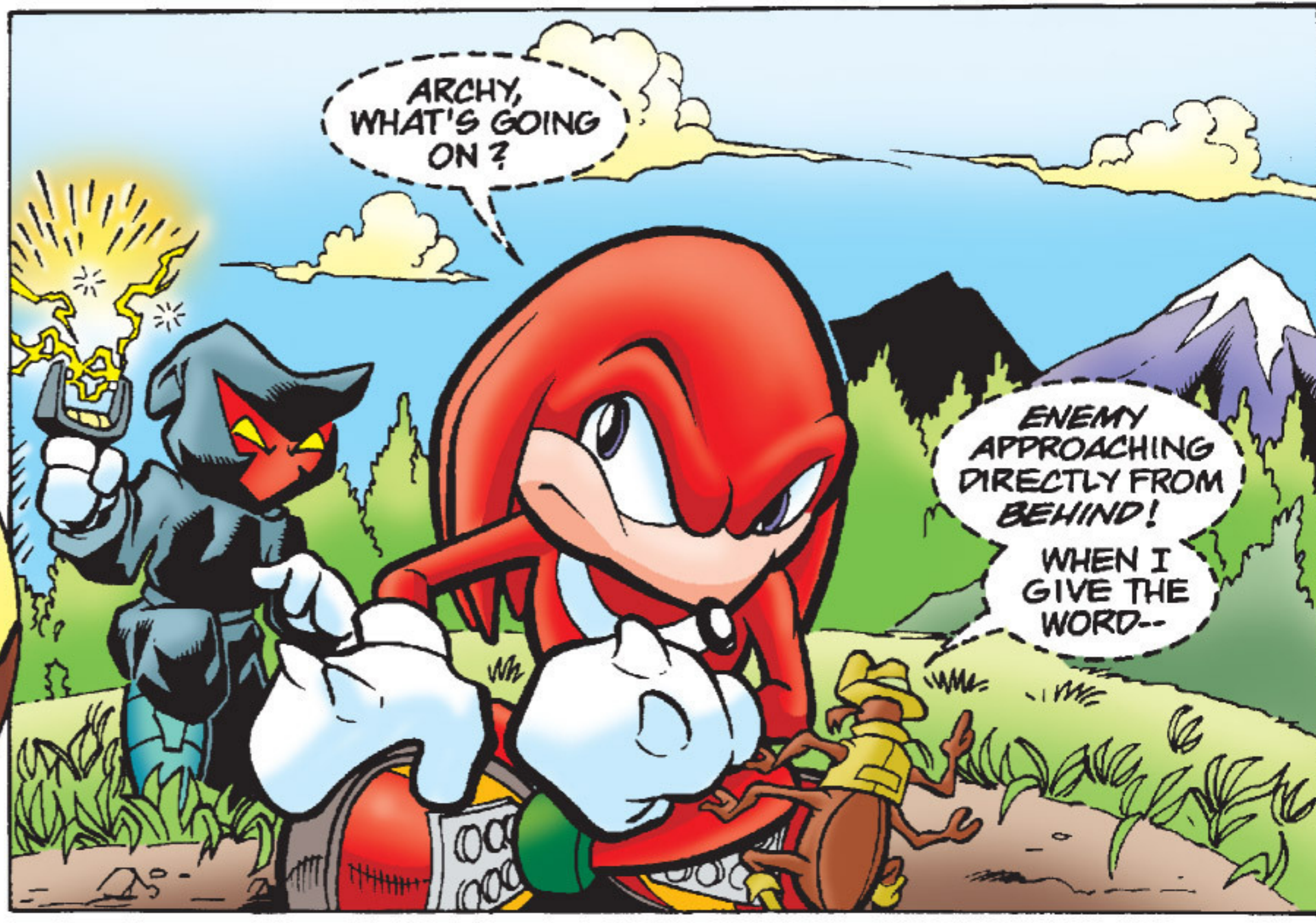


IT'S A LOAD OF MYSTIC MUMBO-JUMBO THAT HASN'T ANY BENEFITS I CAN SEE!



SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT IS NOT SOMETHING THAT OCCURS WHEN--

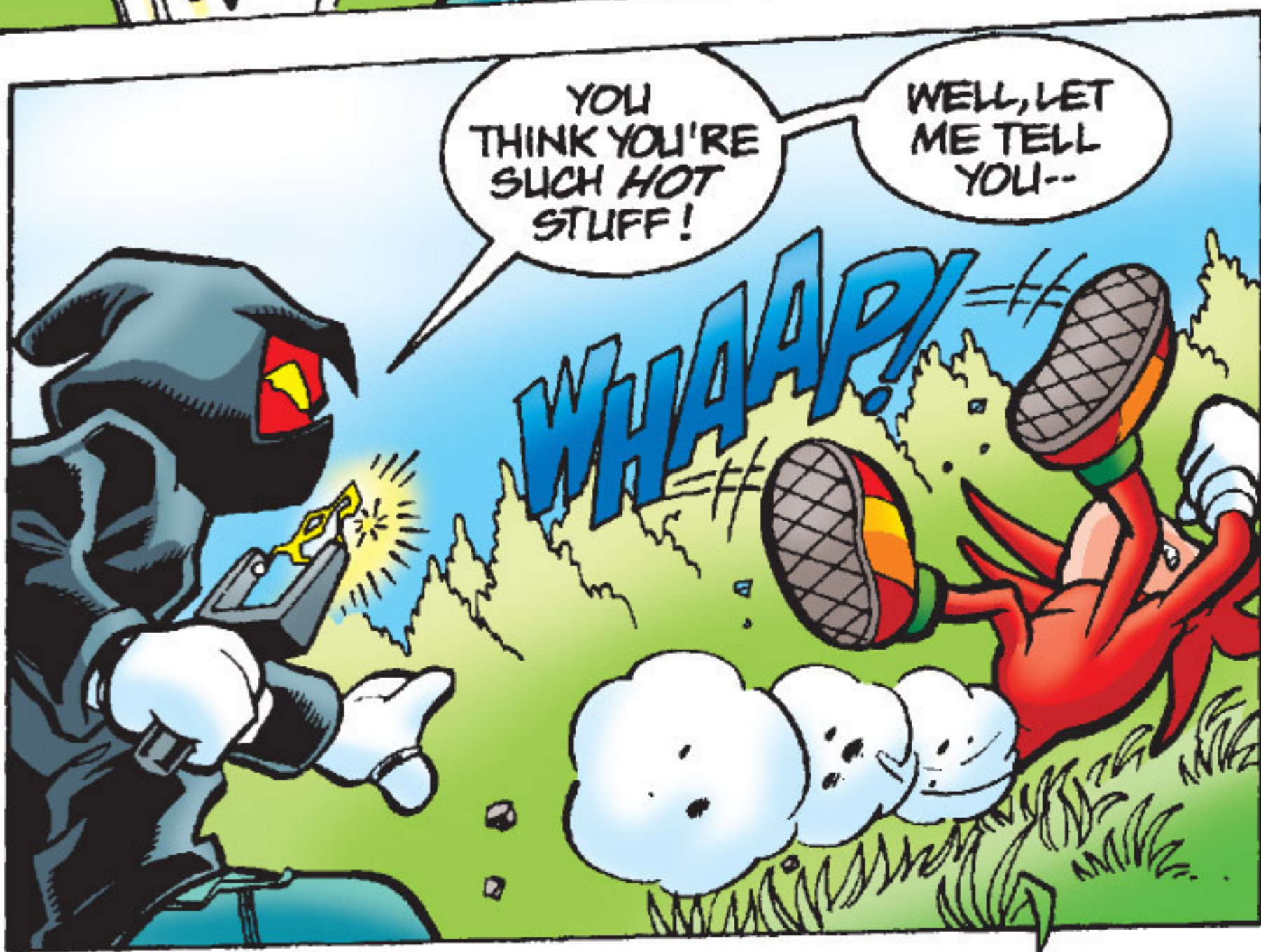
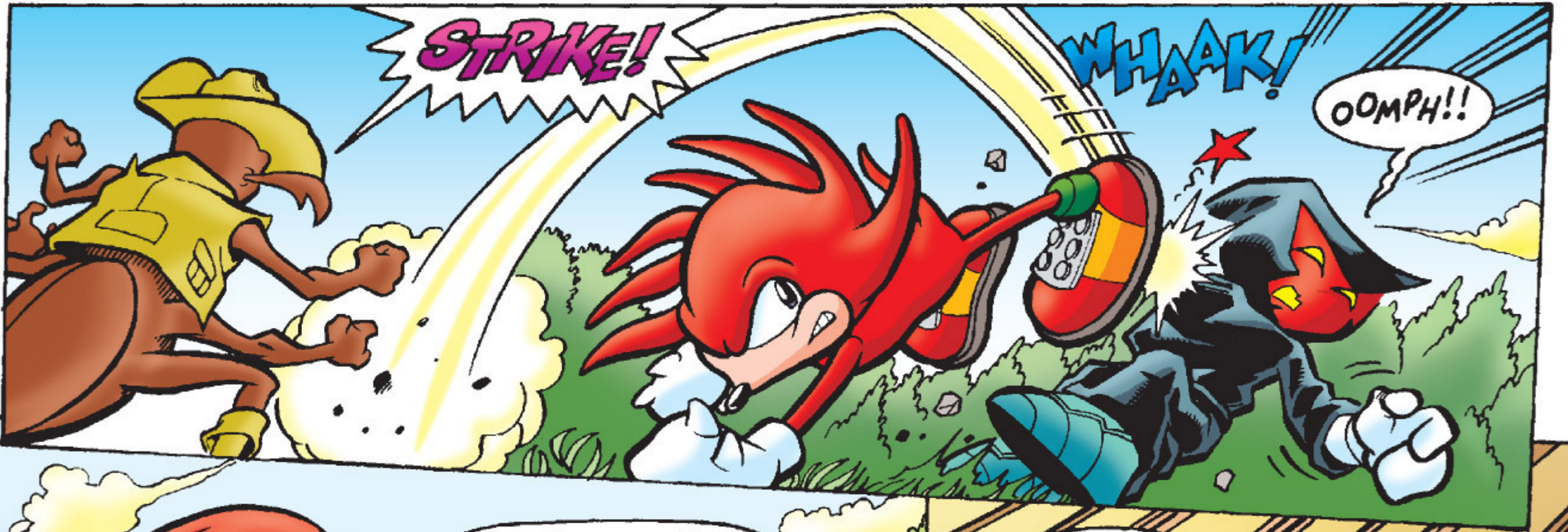
HOLD!

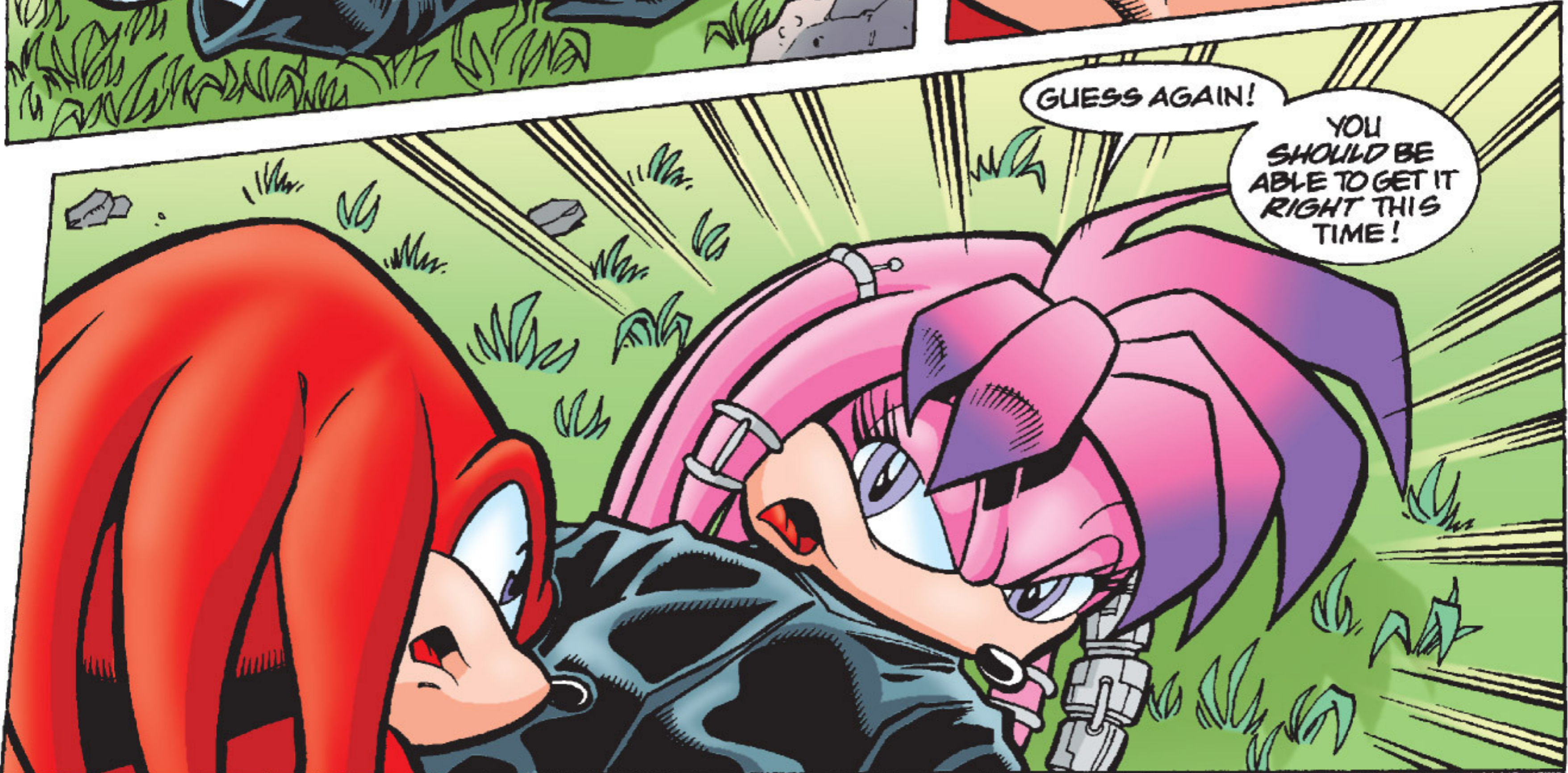
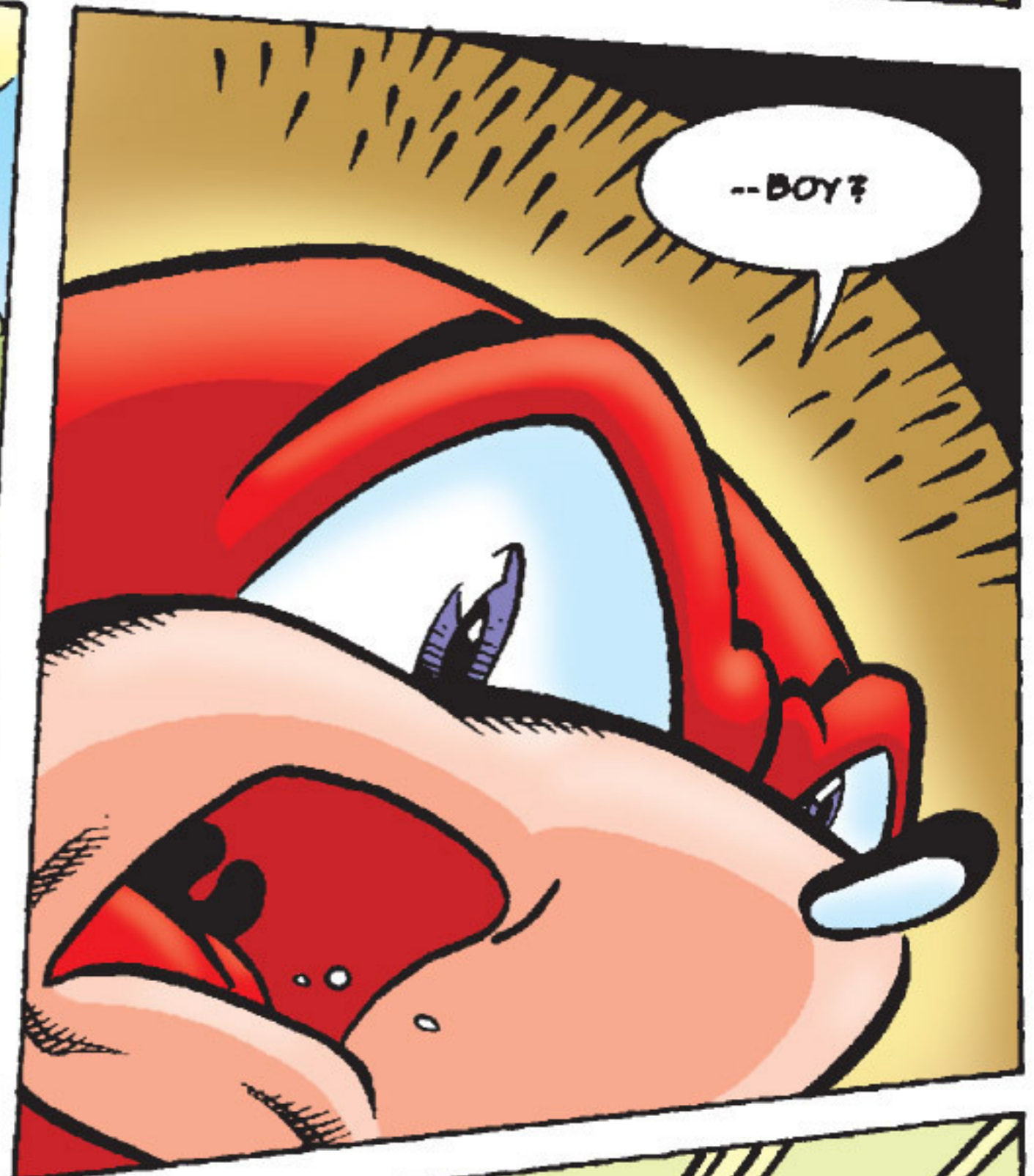
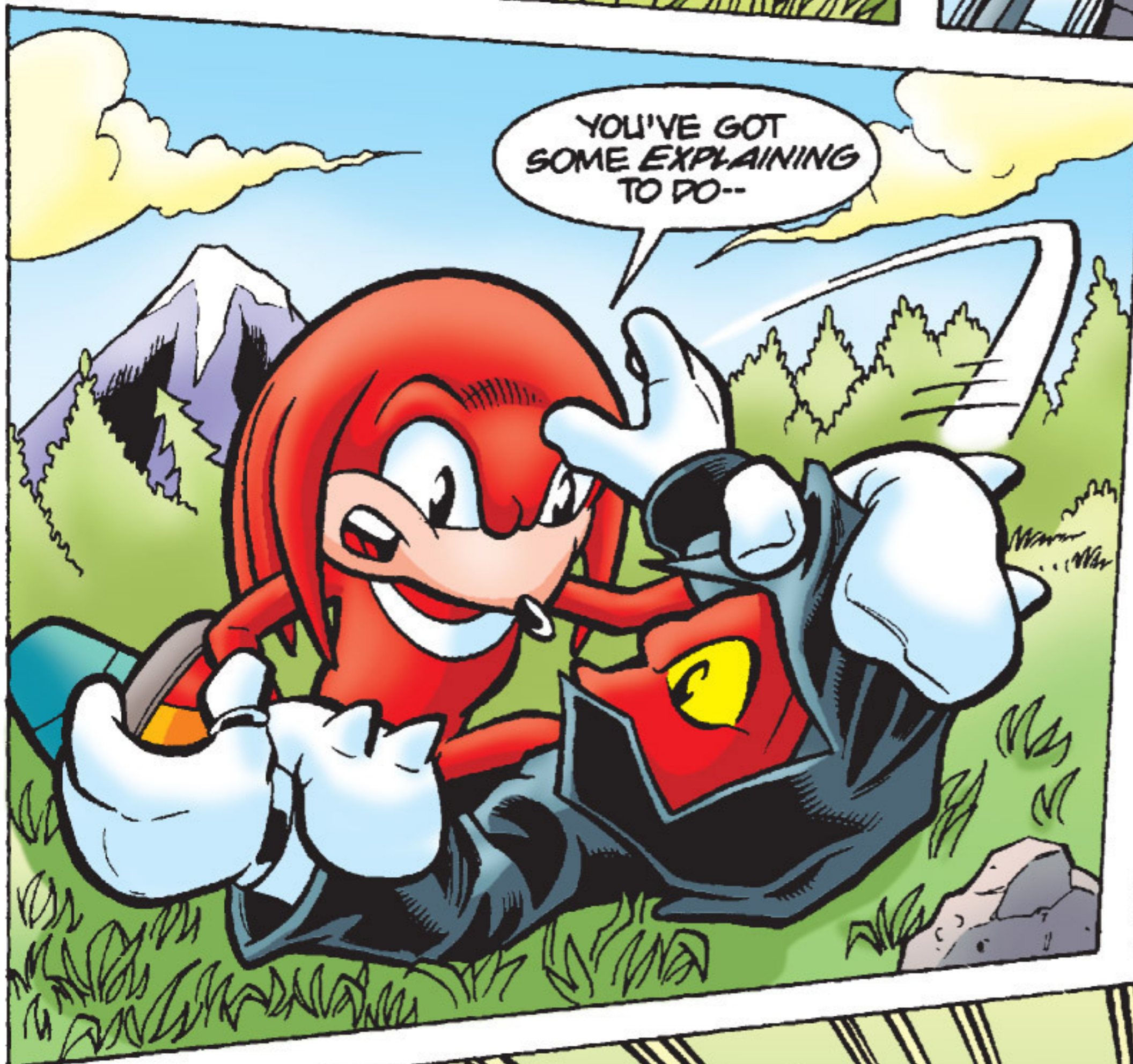


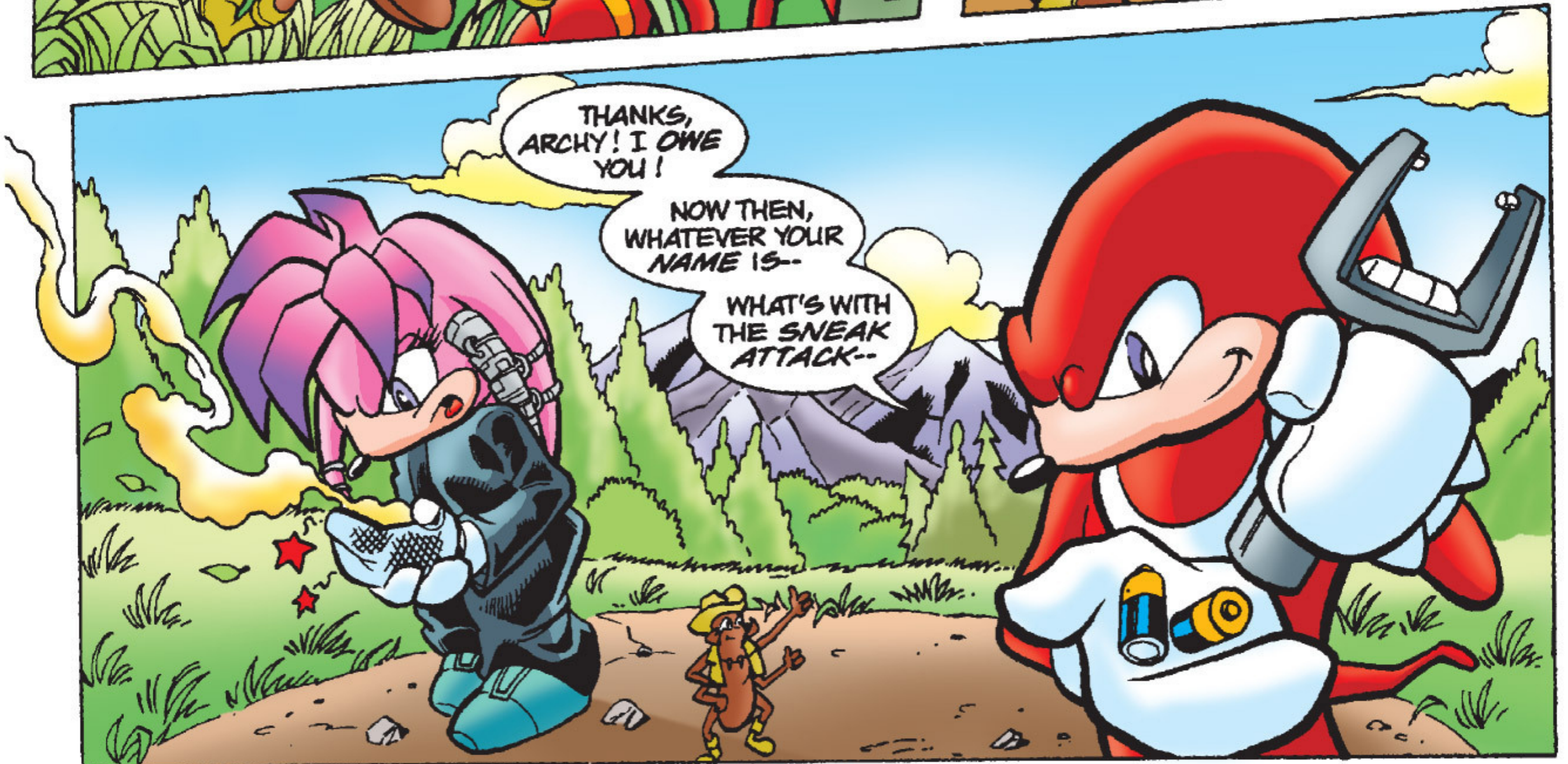
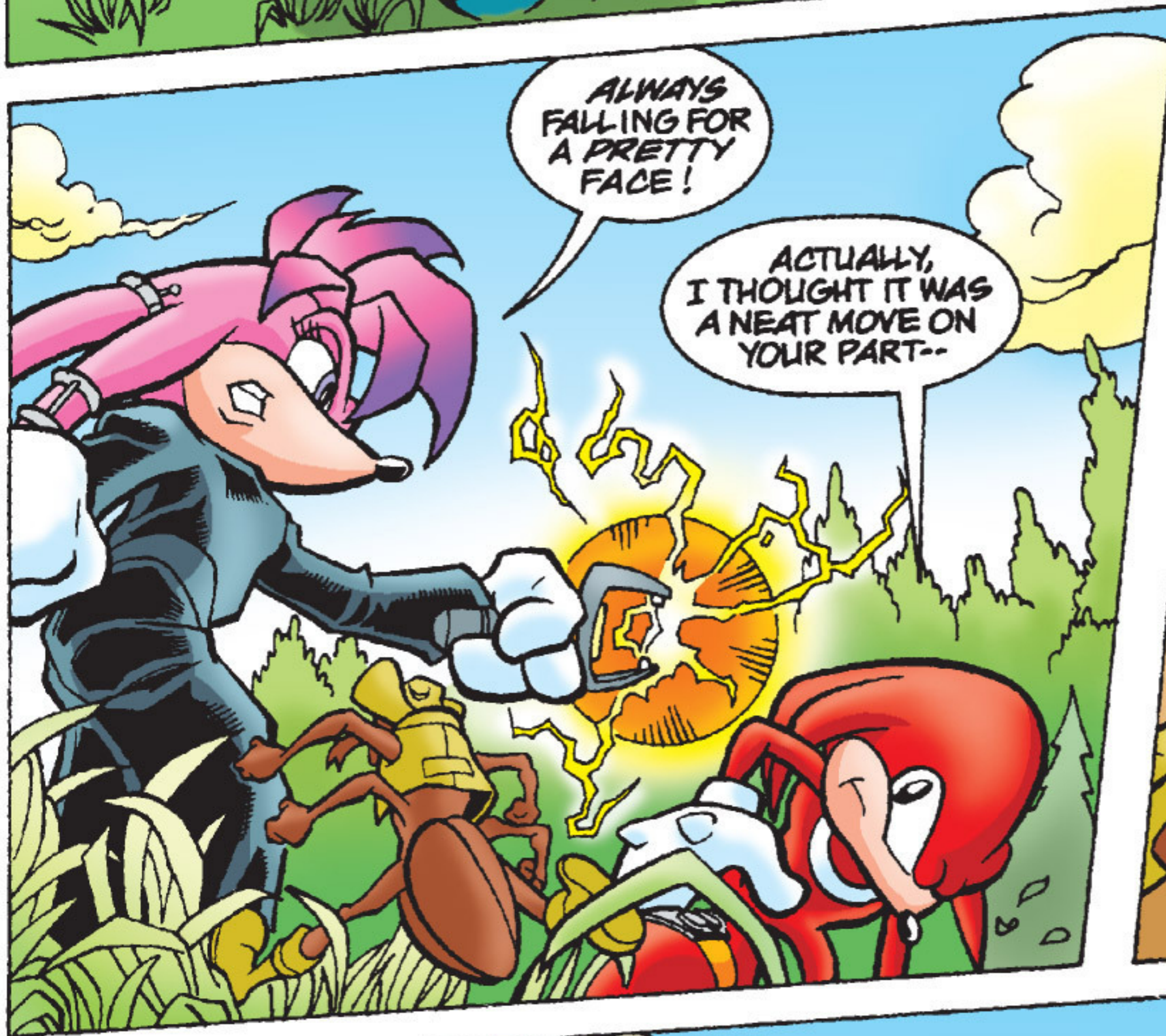
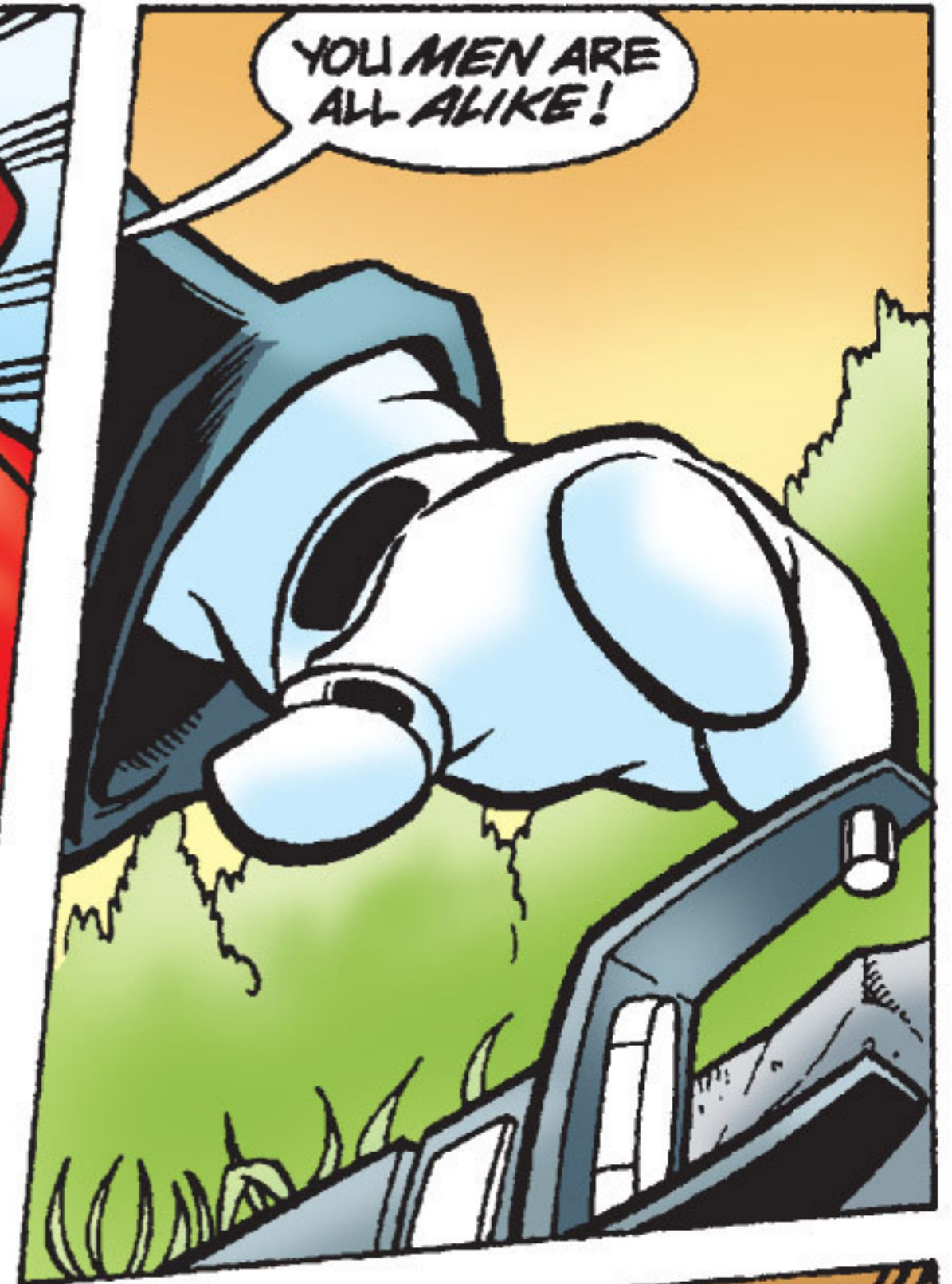
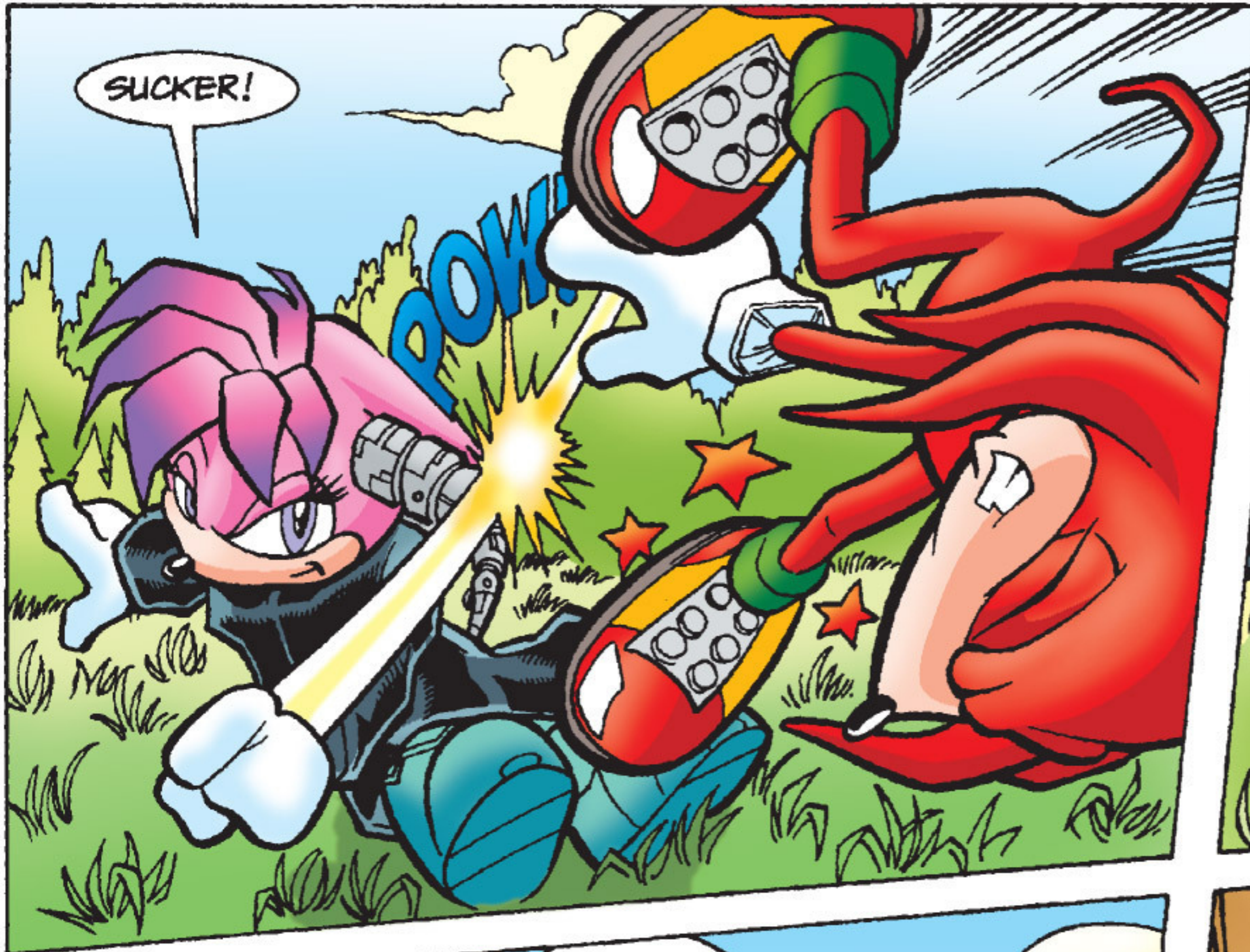
ARCHY, WHAT'S GOING ON?

ENEMY APPROACHING DIRECTLY FROM BEHIND!

WHEN I GIVE THE WORD--







-- AND WHERE'S THE REST OF KRAGOK'S THUGS, FEMALE? *

THE NAME IS JULIE-SU, AND I DON'T KNOW WHERE THEY ARE!

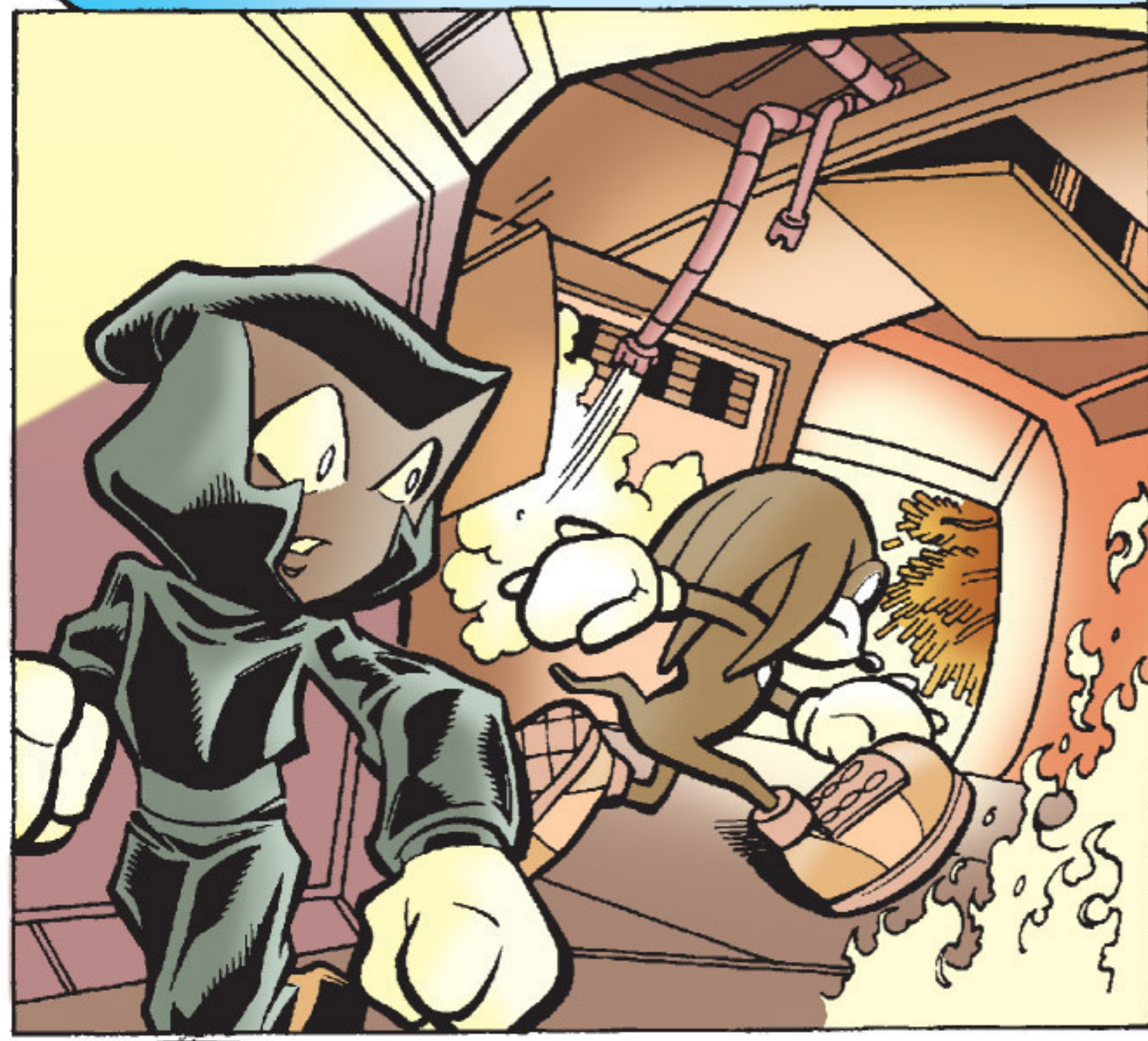
YOU EXPECT US TO BELIEVE THAT?

KNUCKLES ARCHIVES VOL 1 *

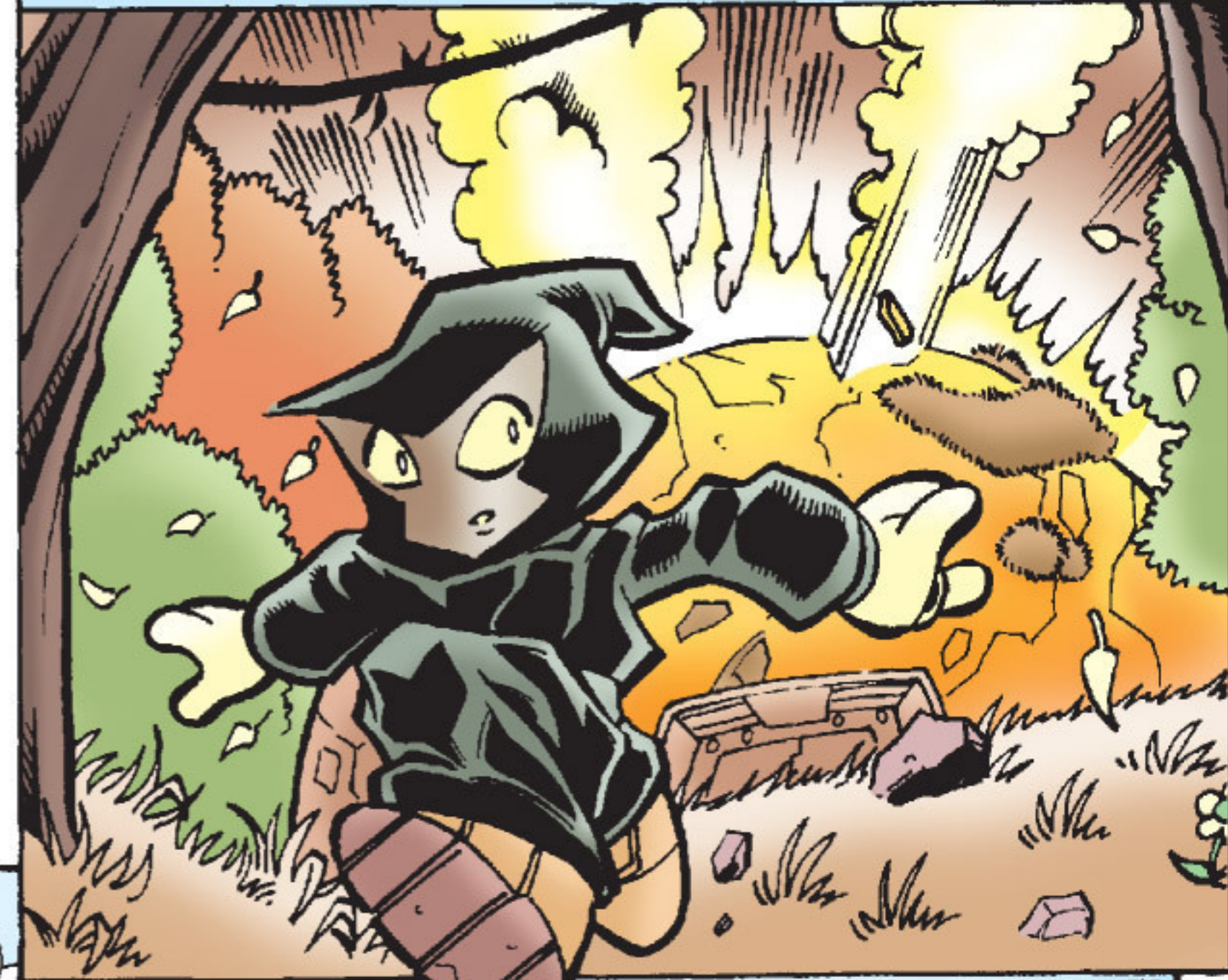


"KRAGOK WAS SO PARANOID ABOUT YOU LEARNING WHAT THE WHOLE DEAL WAS, THAT HE ACTIVATED THE SELF-DESTRUCT SEQUENCE!"

"I WAS ALL SET TO LEAVE, WHEN AT THE LAST MOMENT, I SAW YOU RUNNING PAST."



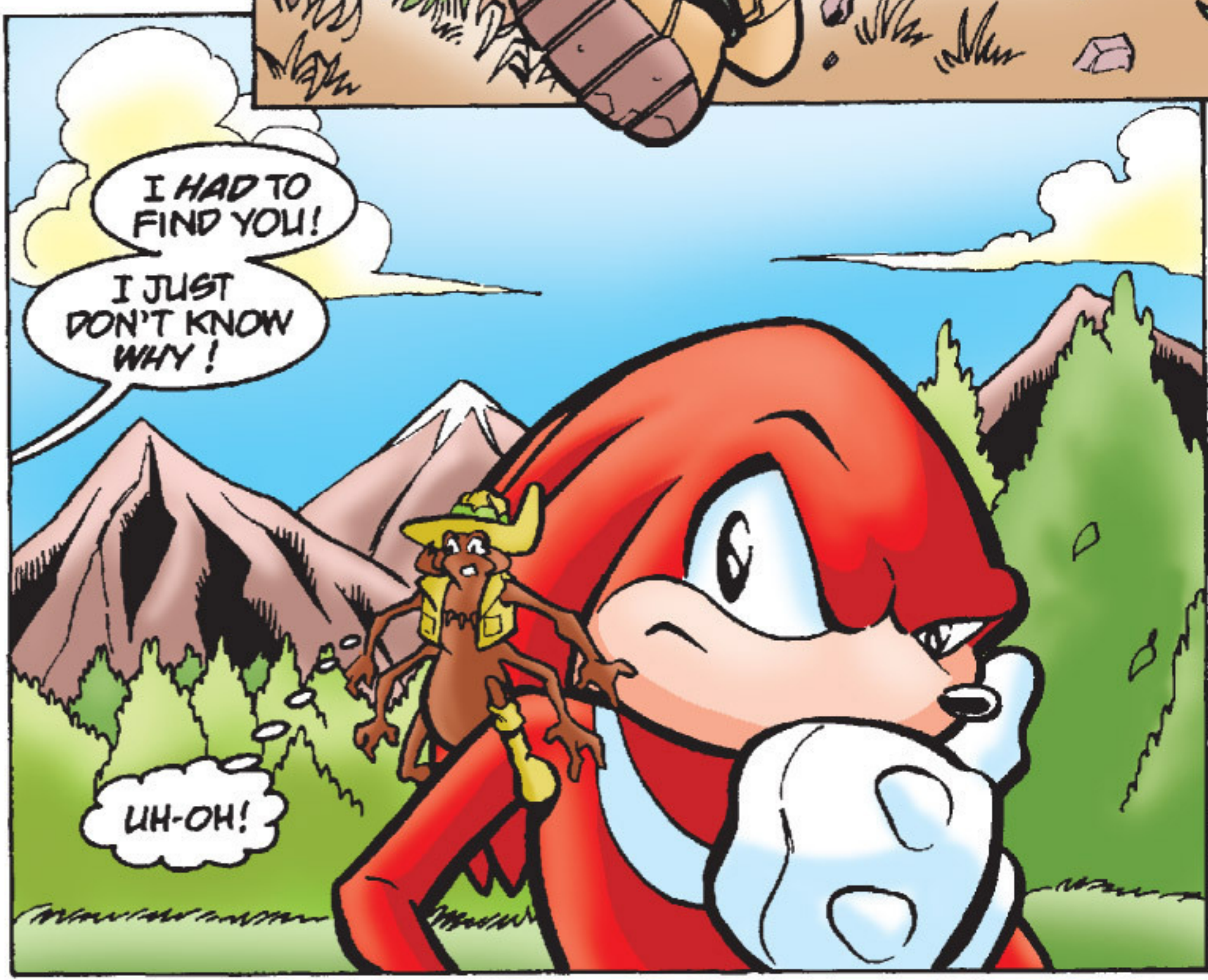
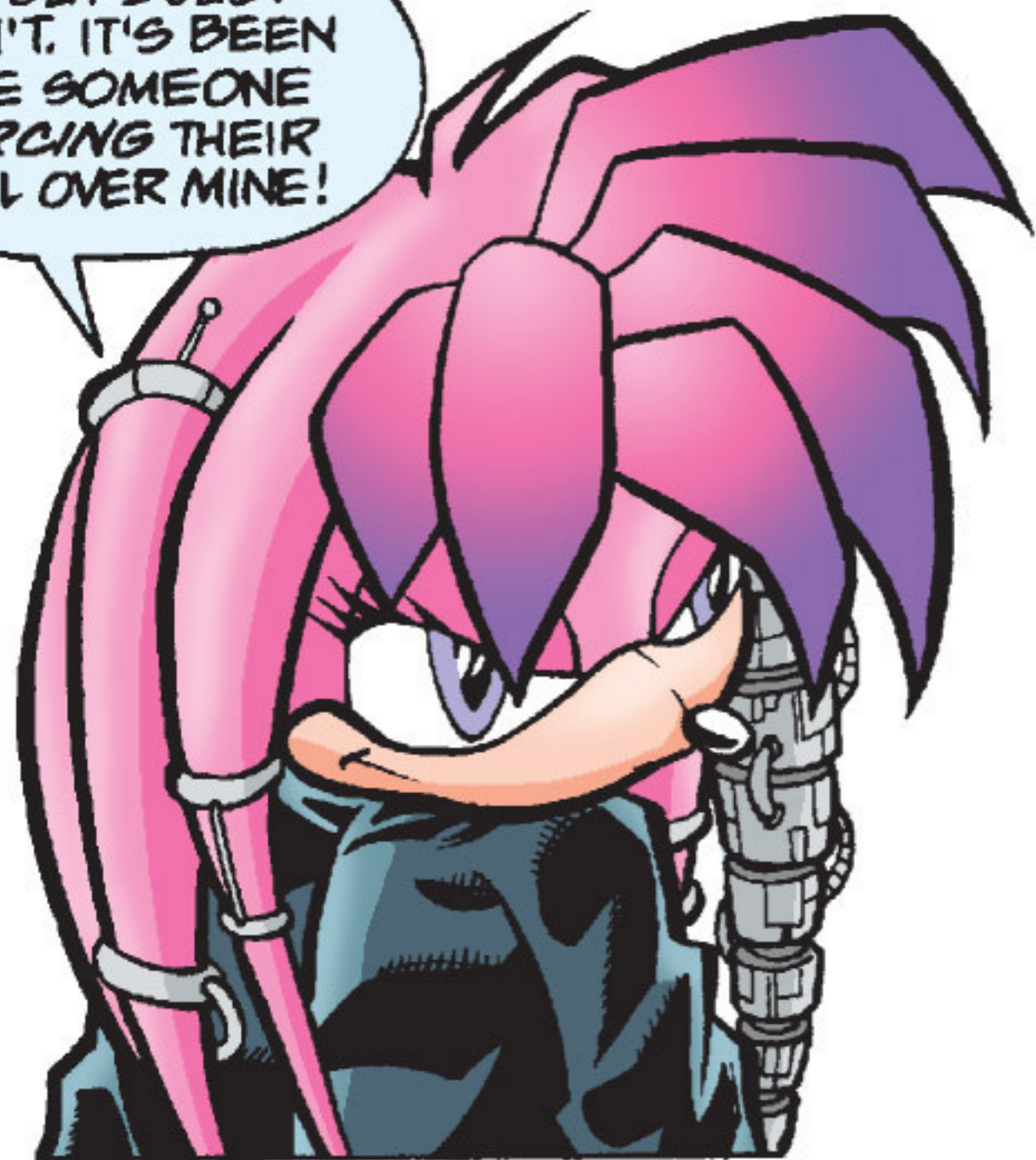
"I TRIED TO FOLLOW, BUT THINGS GOT CRAZY, AND IT WAS ALL I COULD DO JUST TO GET OUT ALIVE."



THE FUNNY THING IS--

I WANTED TO REJOIN THE LEGION--

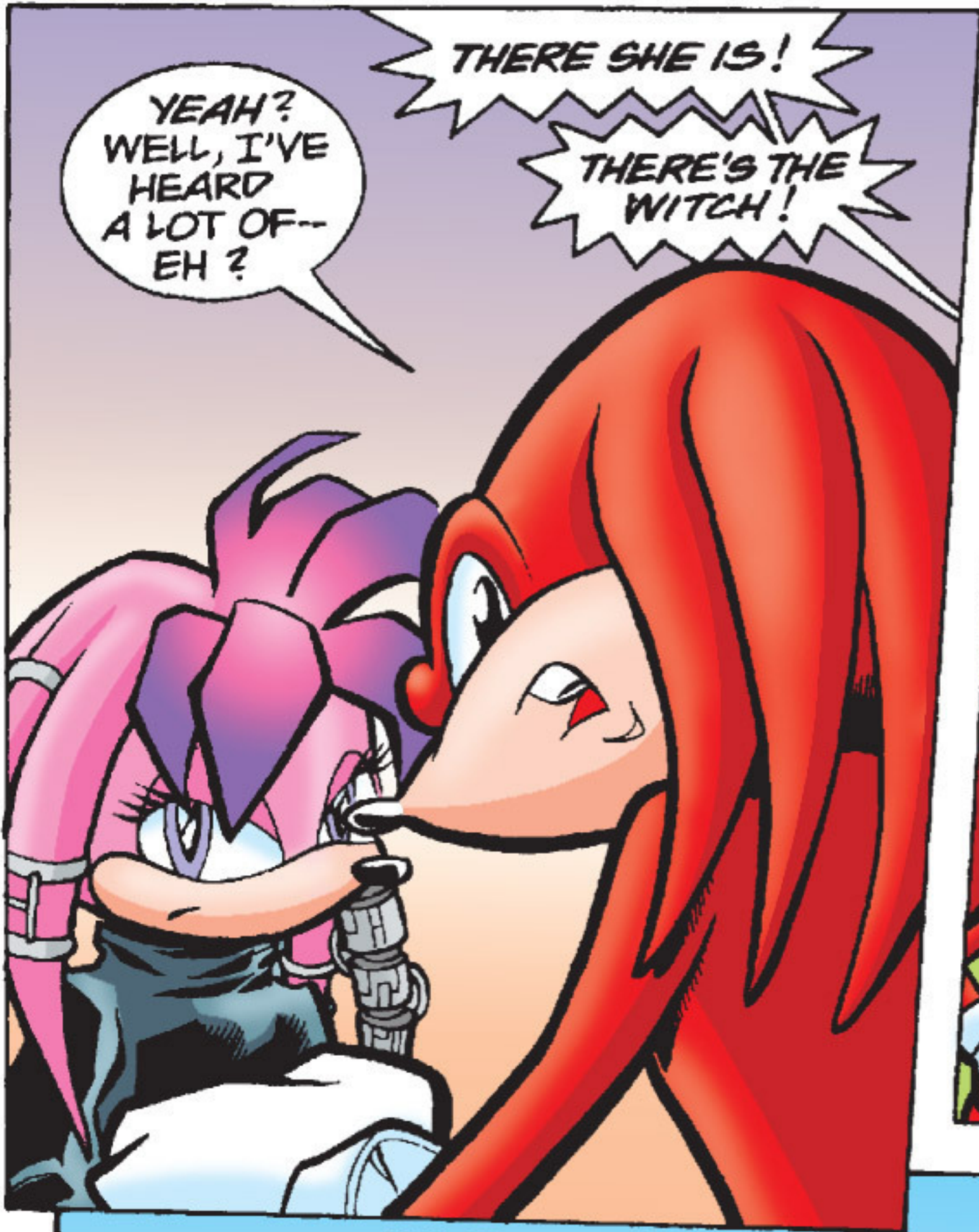
-- BUT I JUST CAN'T. IT'S BEEN LIKE SOMEONE FORCING THEIR WILL OVER MINE!



I HAD TO FIND YOU!

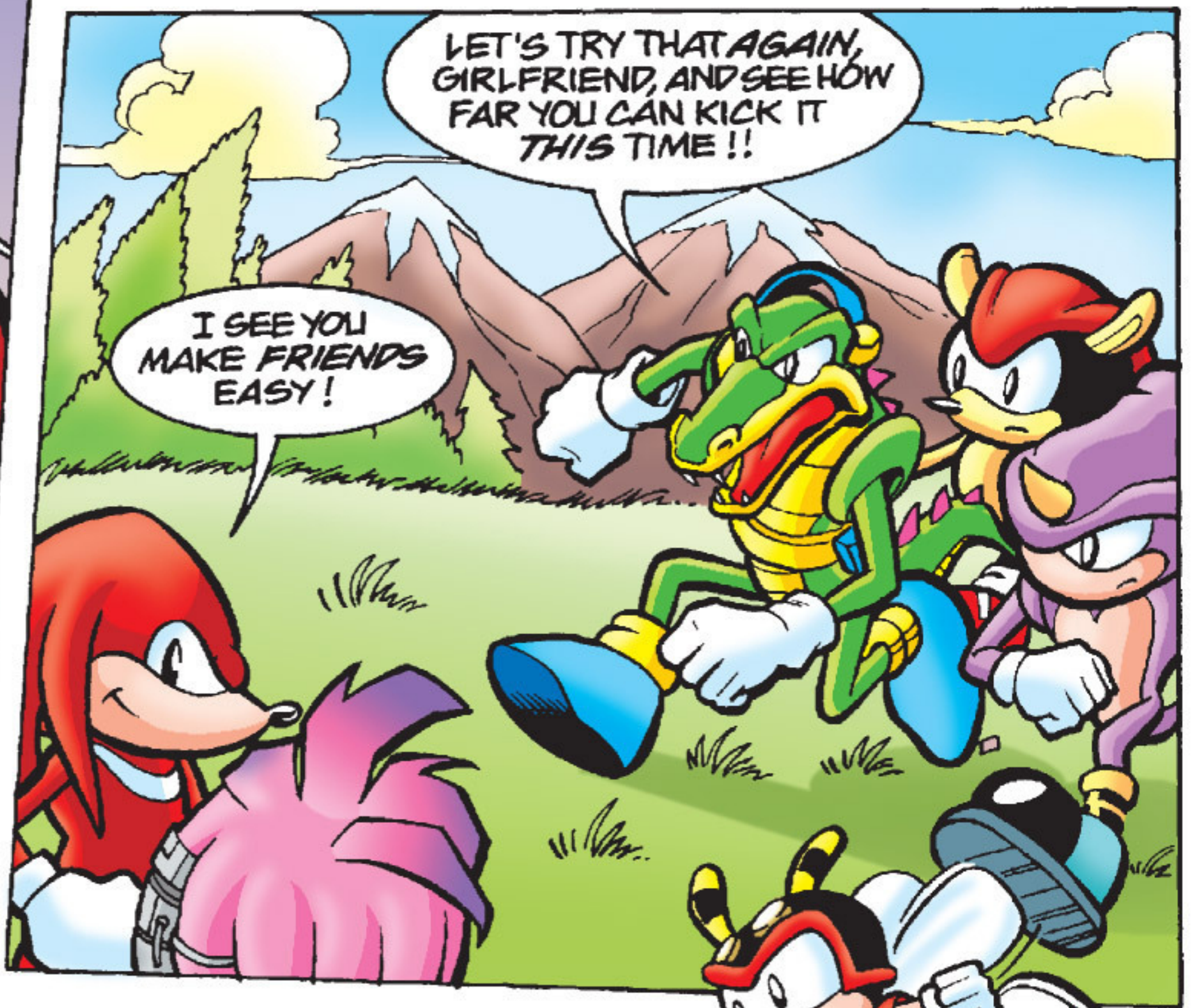
I JUST DON'T KNOW WHY!

UH-OH!



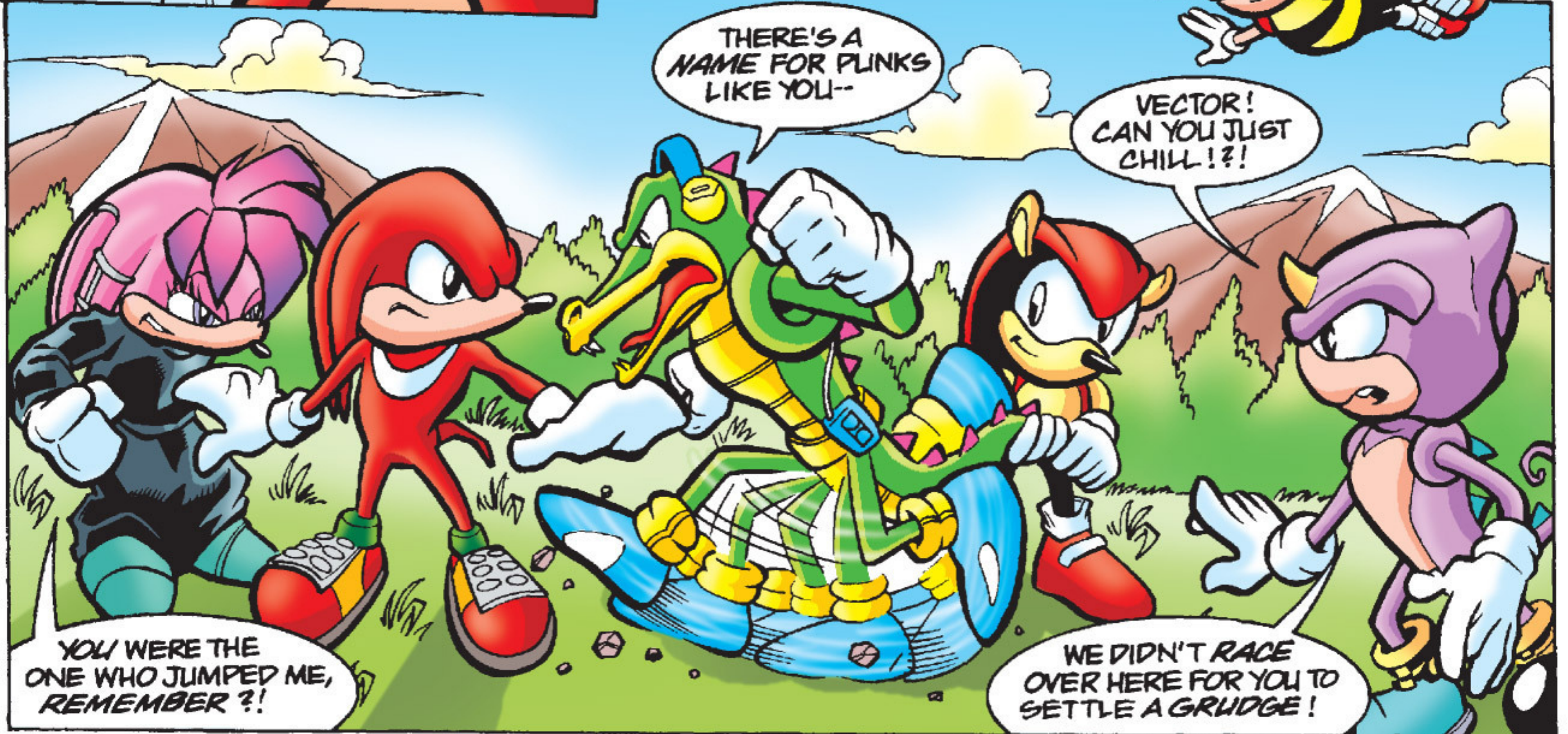
YEAH? WELL, I'VE HEARD A LOT OF-- EH?

THERE SHE IS!
THERE'S THE WITCH!



I SEE YOU MAKE FRIENDS EASY!

LET'S TRY THAT AGAIN, GIRLFRIEND, AND SEE HOW FAR YOU CAN KICK IT THIS TIME!!

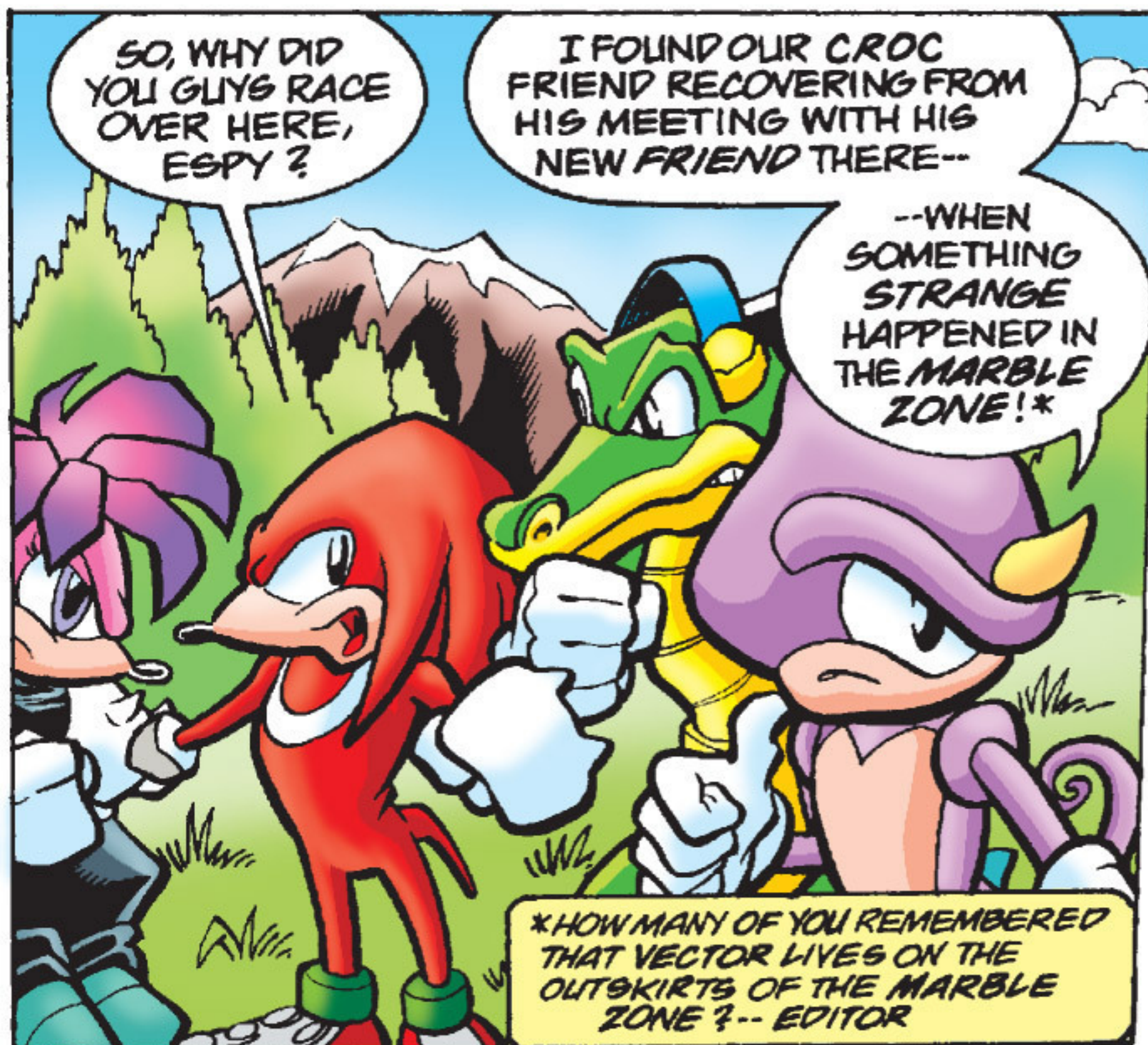


THERE'S A NAME FOR PLINKS LIKE YOU--

VECTOR!
CAN YOU JUST CHILL!?!

YOU WERE THE ONE WHO JUMPED ME, REMEMBER?!

WE DIDN'T RACE OVER HERE FOR YOU TO SETTLE A GRUDGE!



SO, WHY DID YOU GUYS RACE OVER HERE, ESPY?

I FOUND OUR CROC FRIEND RECOVERING FROM HIS MEETING WITH HIS NEW FRIEND THERE--

--WHEN SOMETHING STRANGE HAPPENED IN THE MARBLE ZONE!*

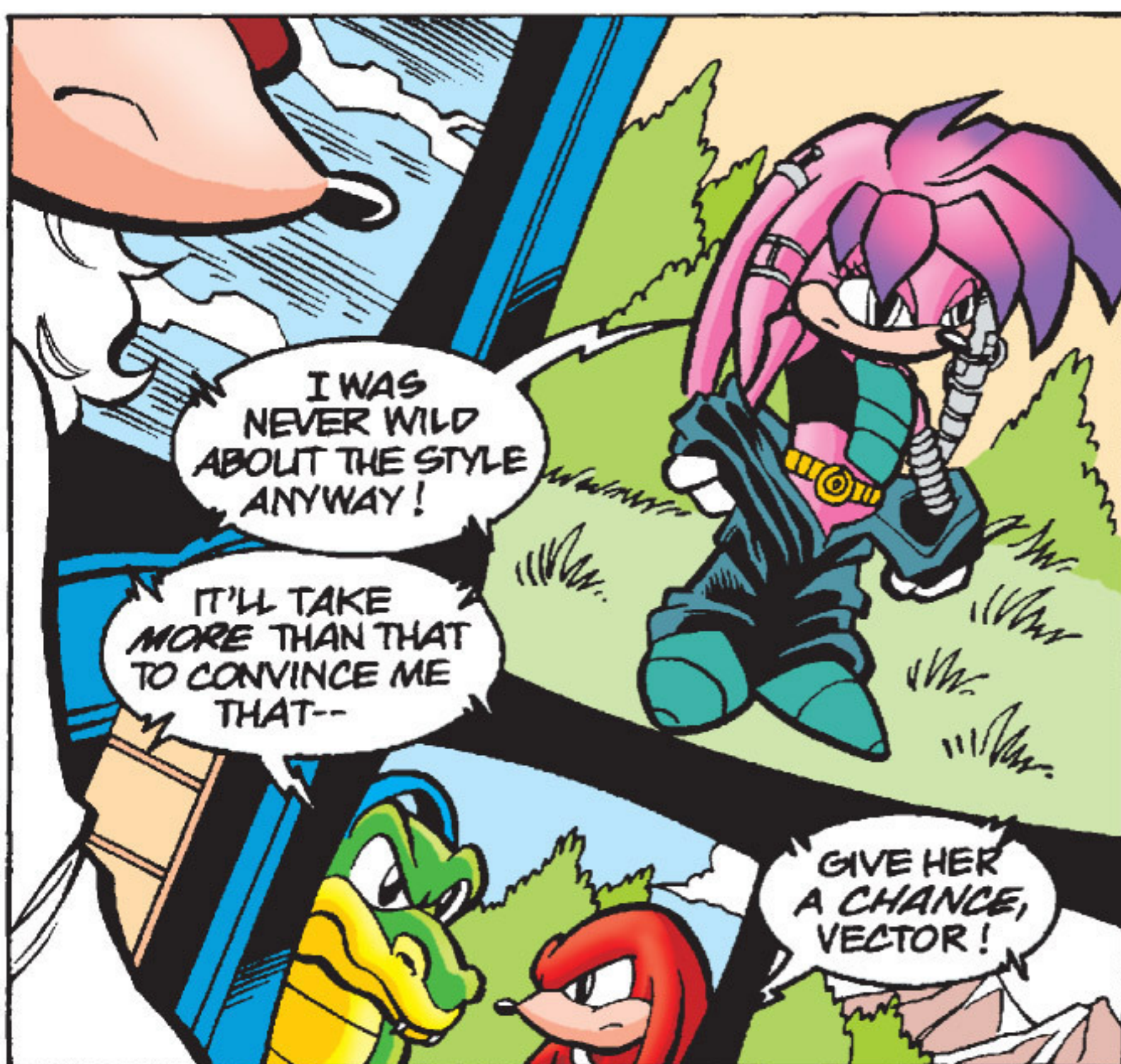
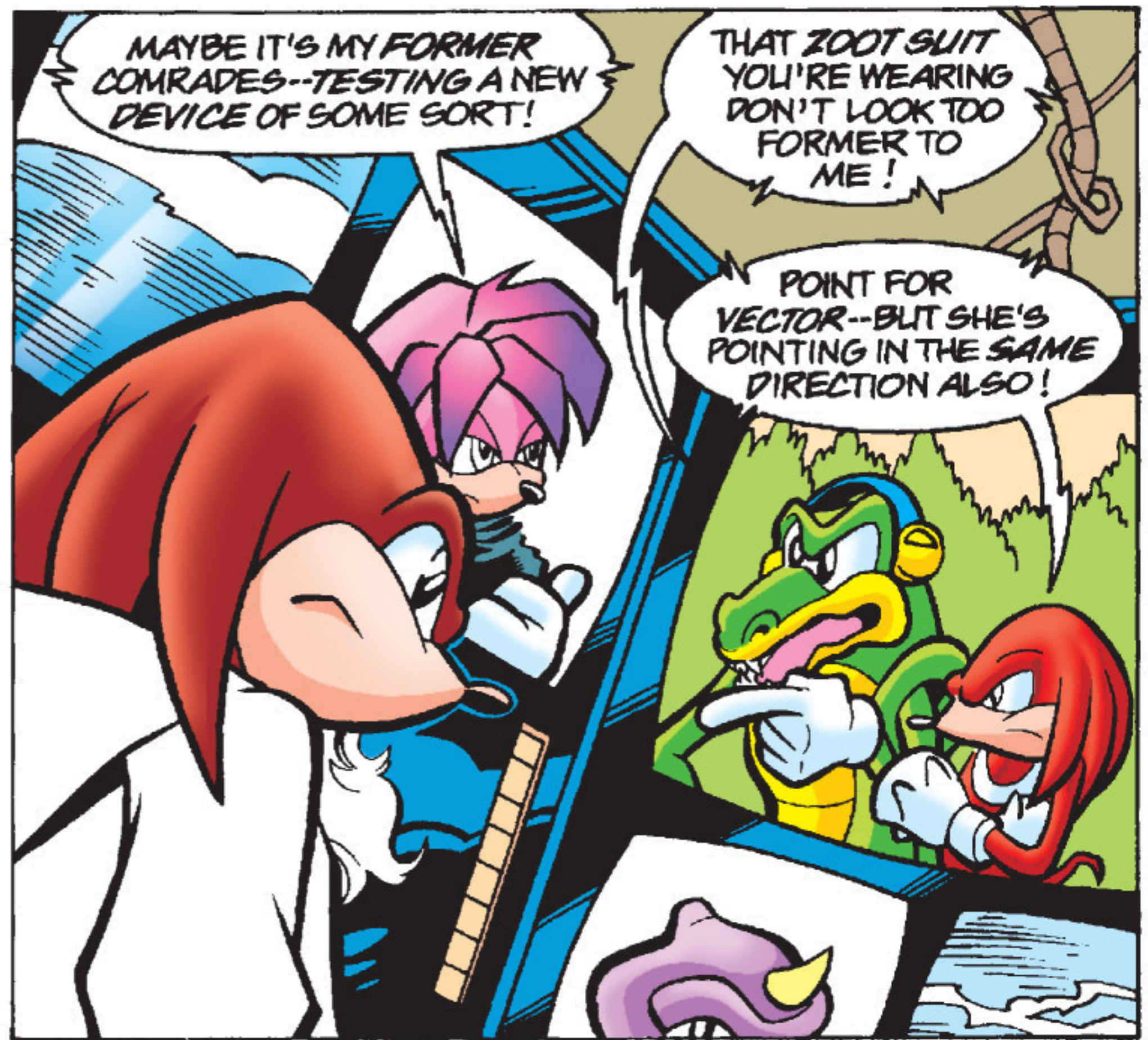
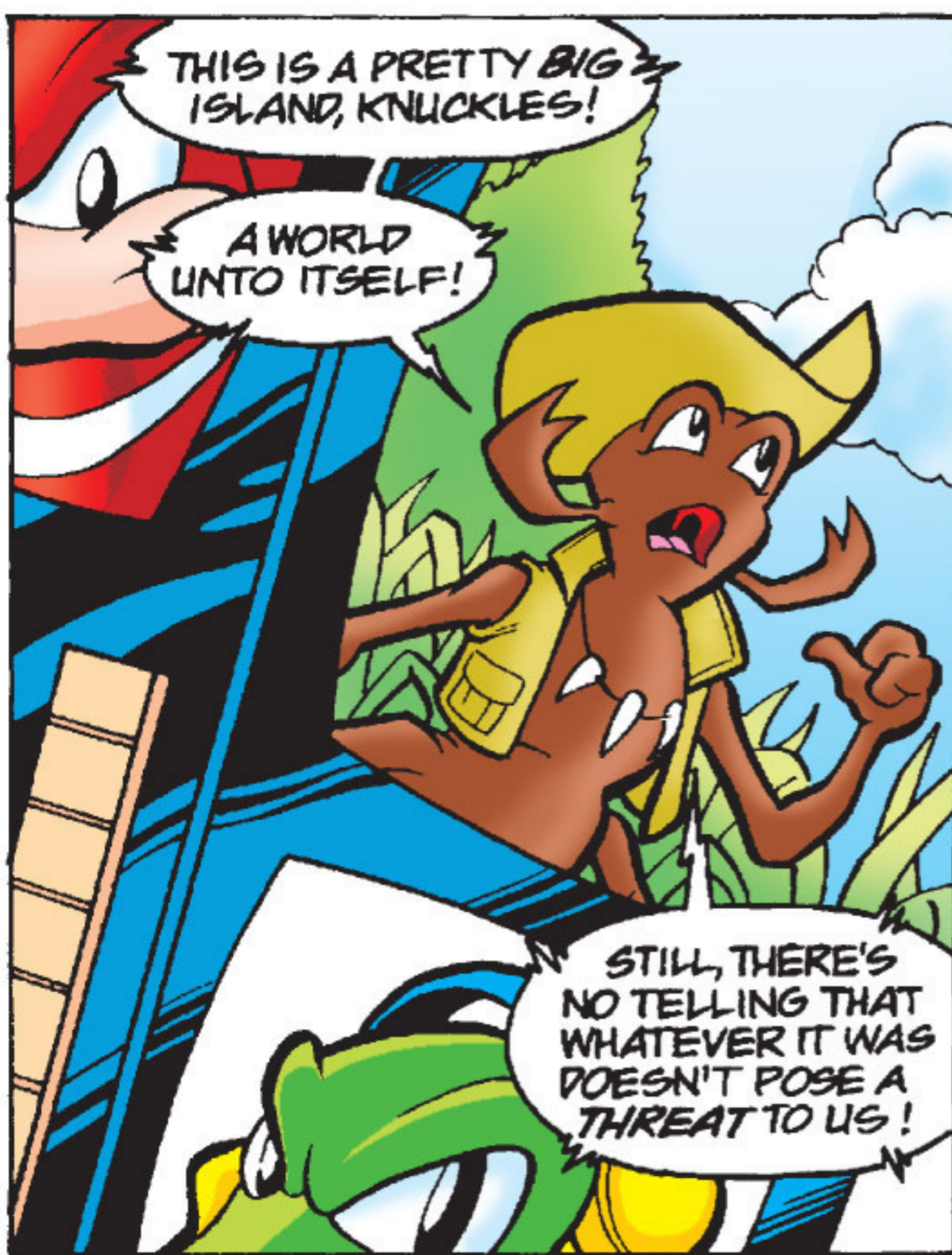
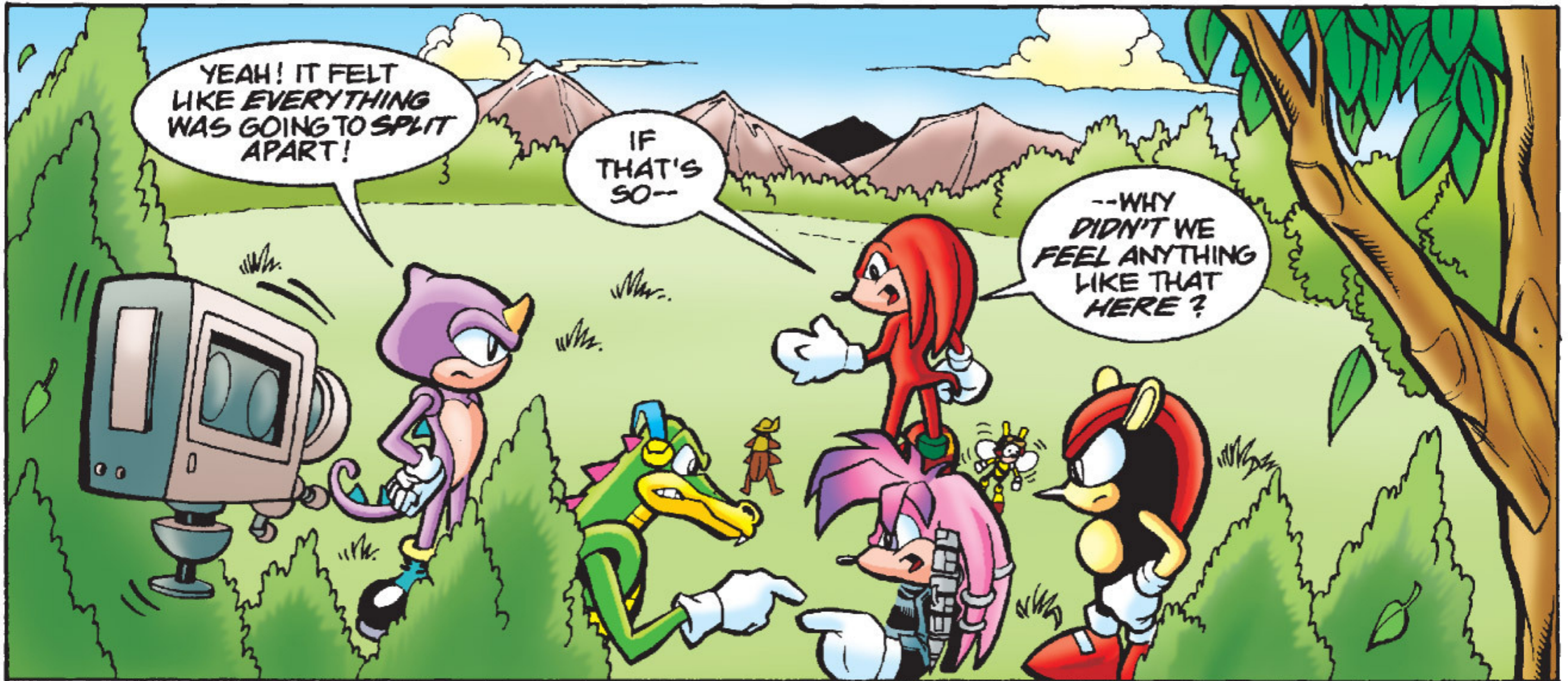
*HOW MANY OF YOU REMEMBERED THAT VECTOR LIVES ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE MARBLE ZONE?-- EDITOR

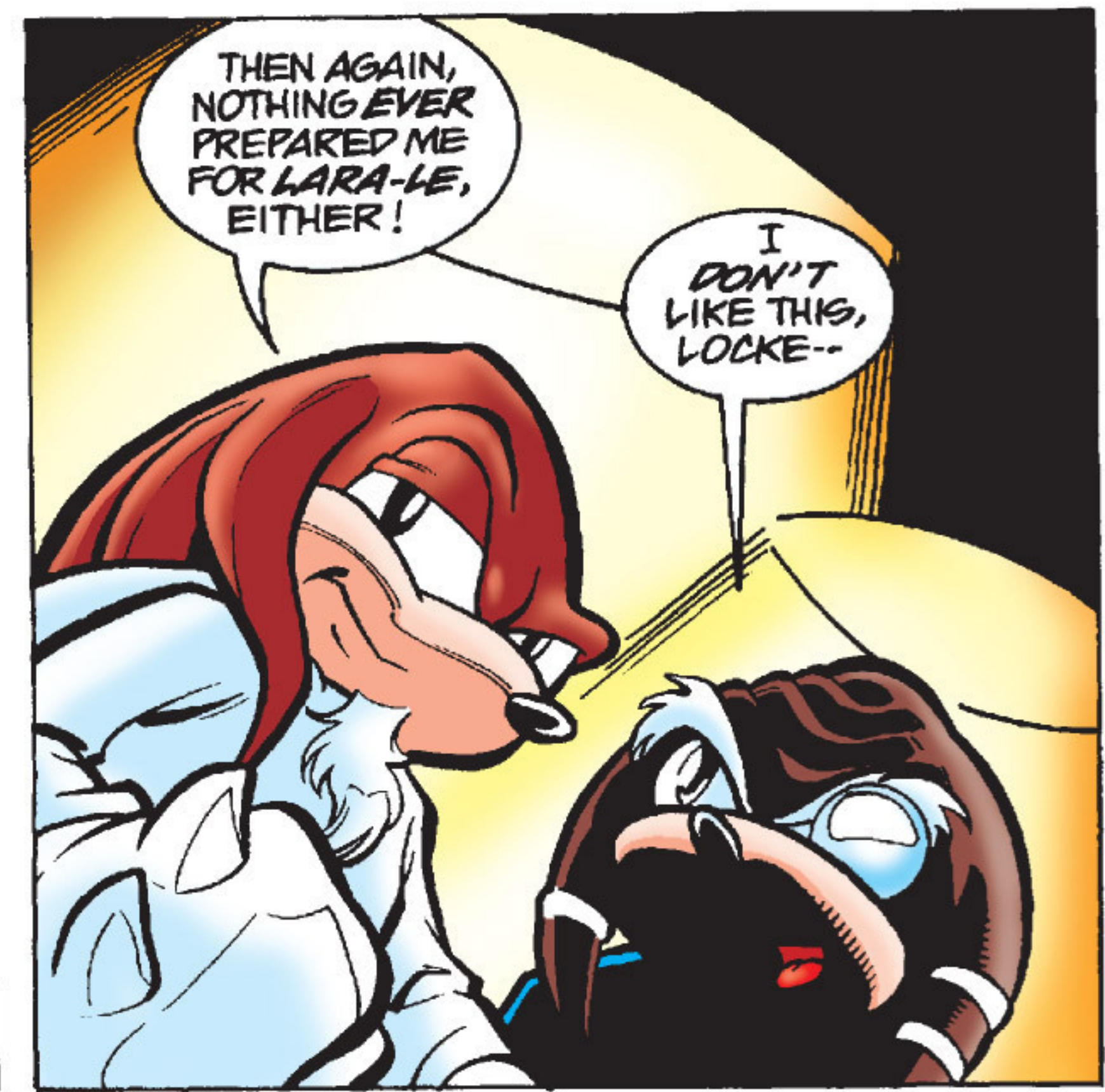
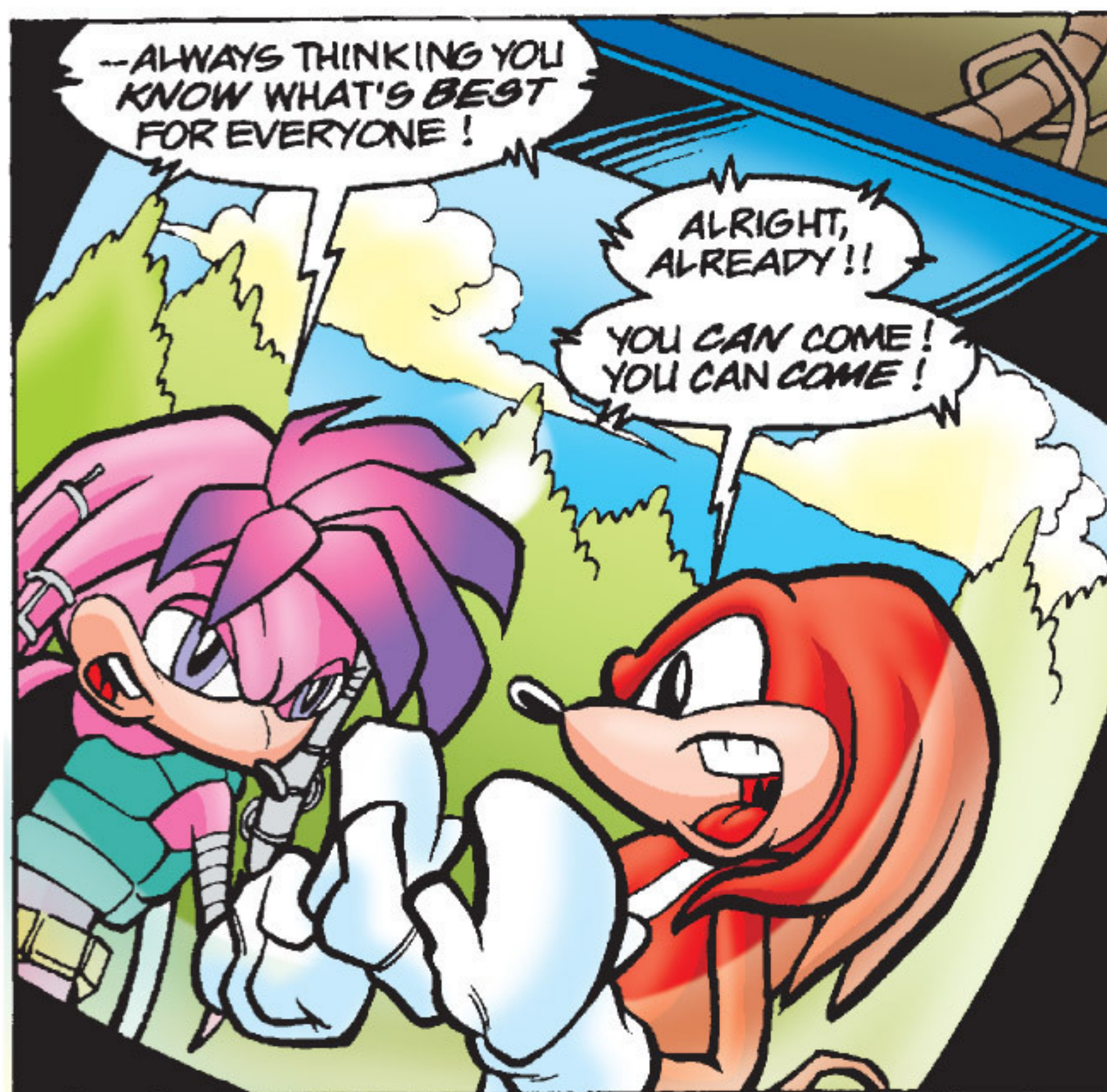
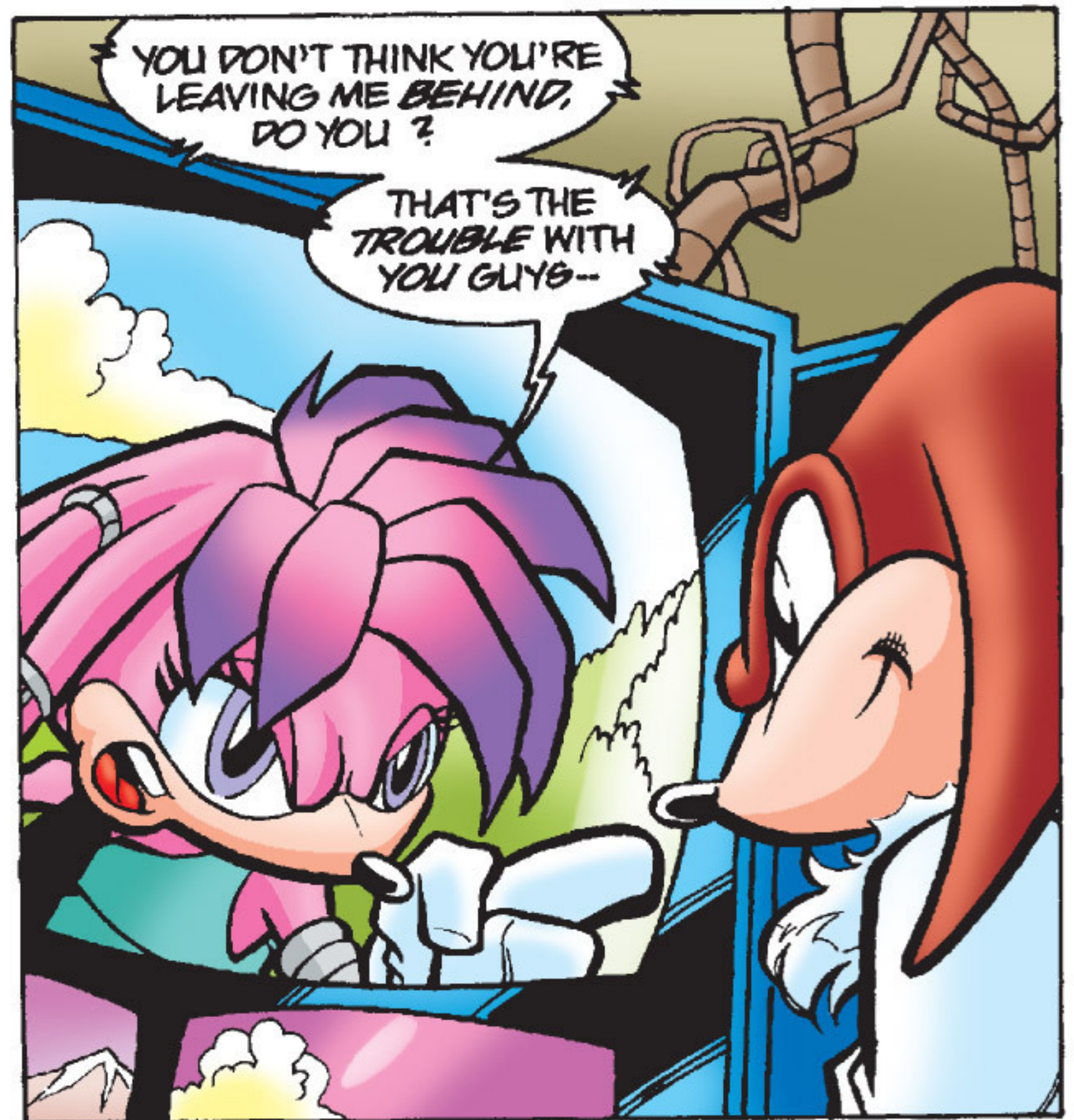
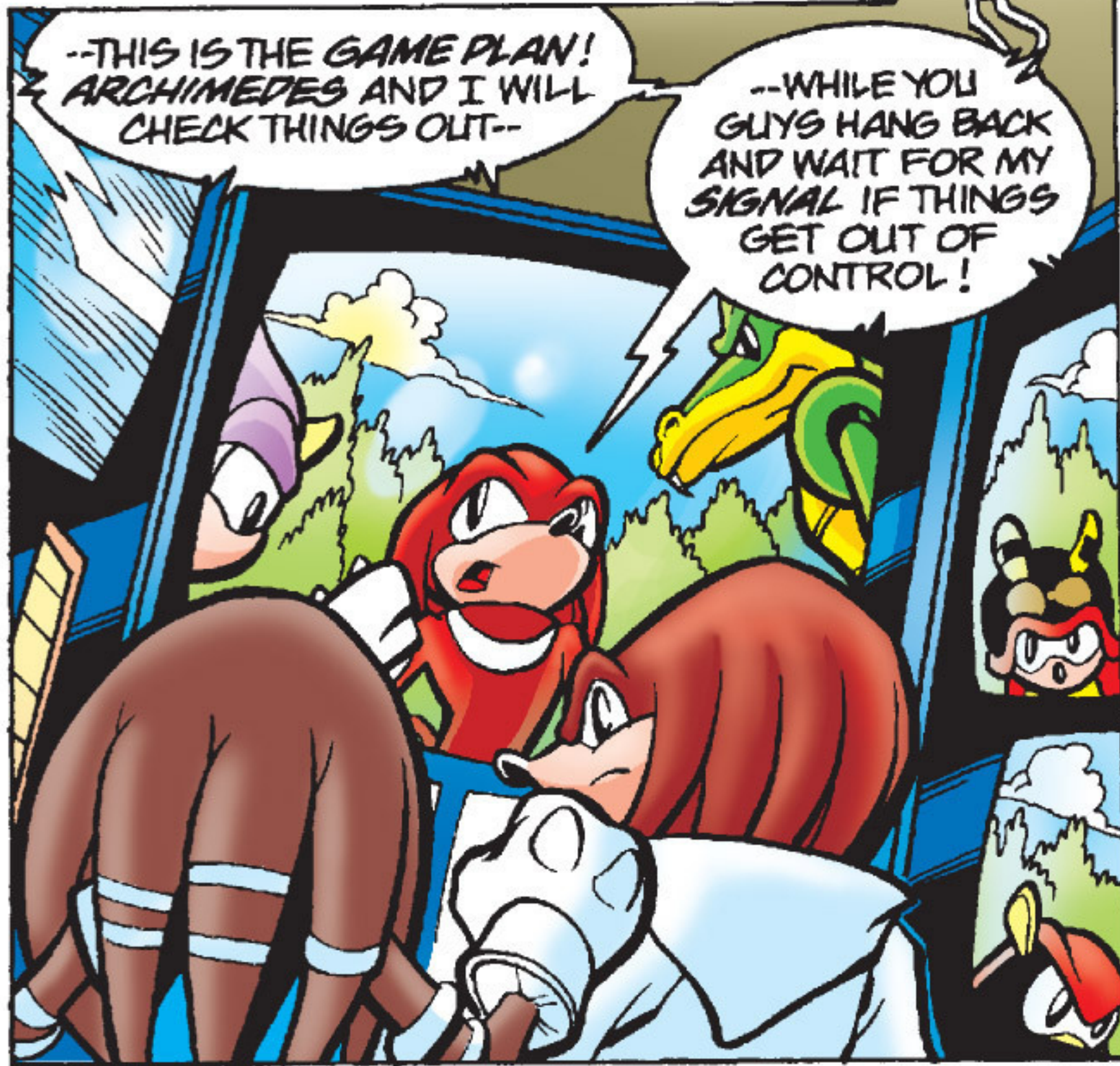
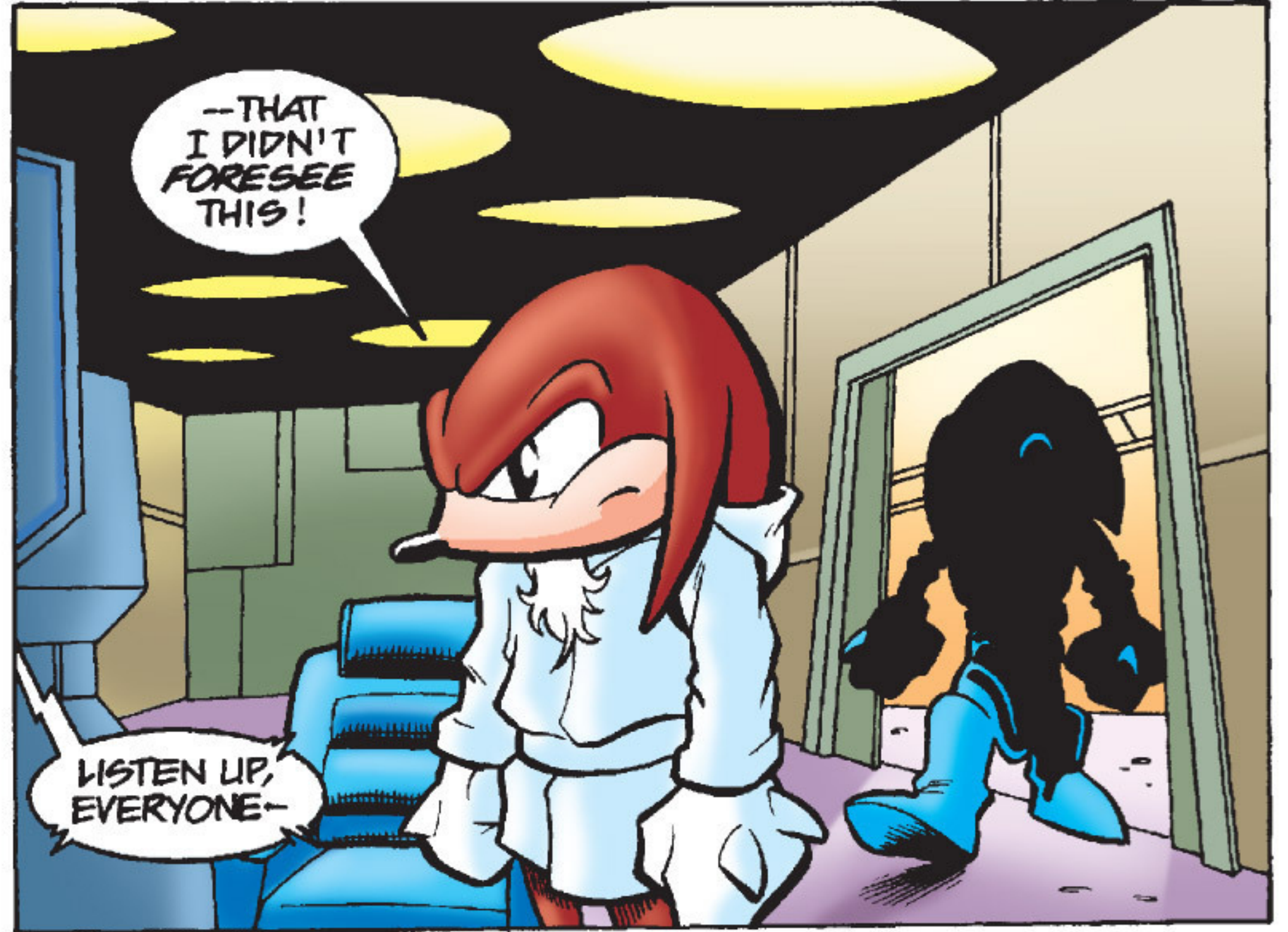
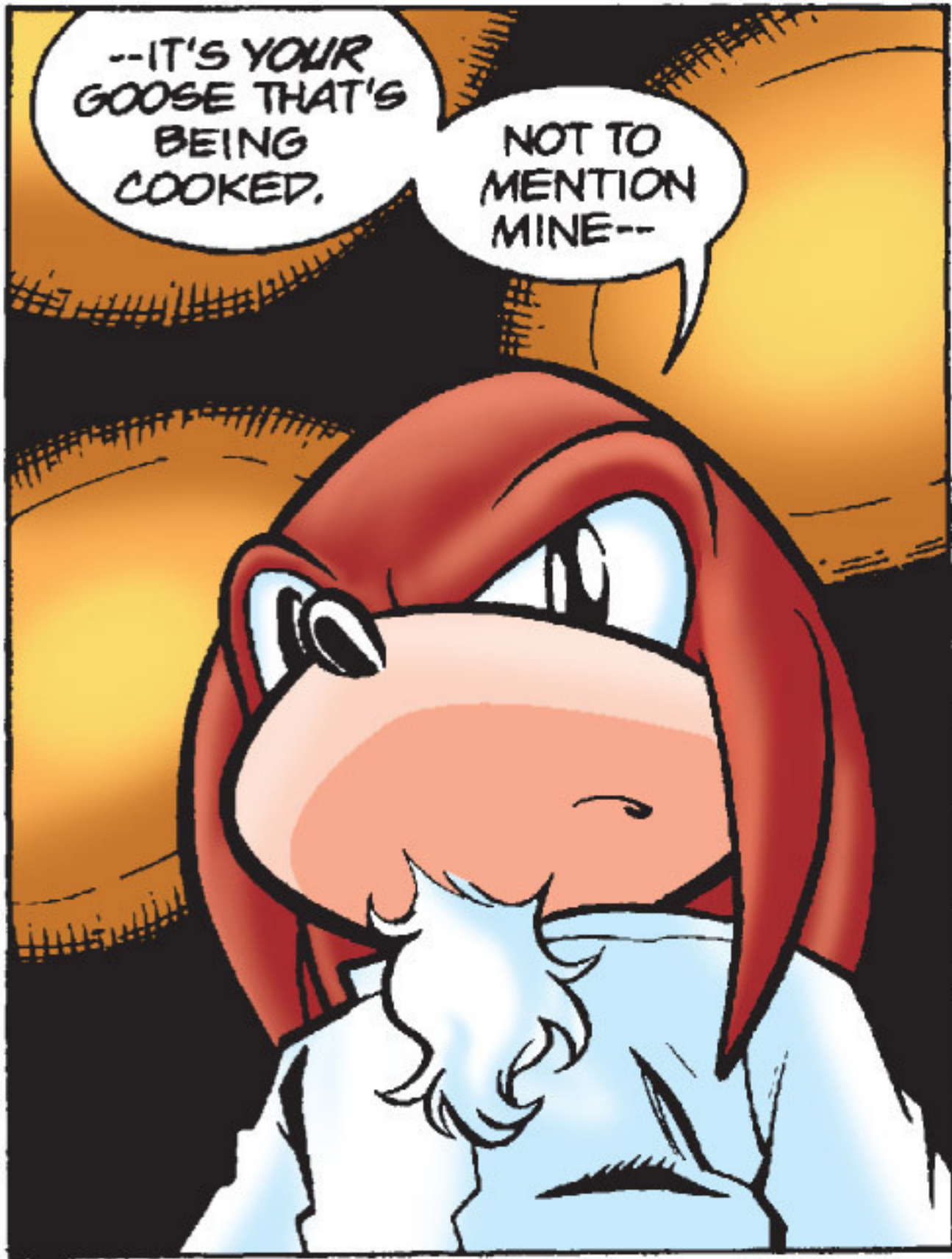


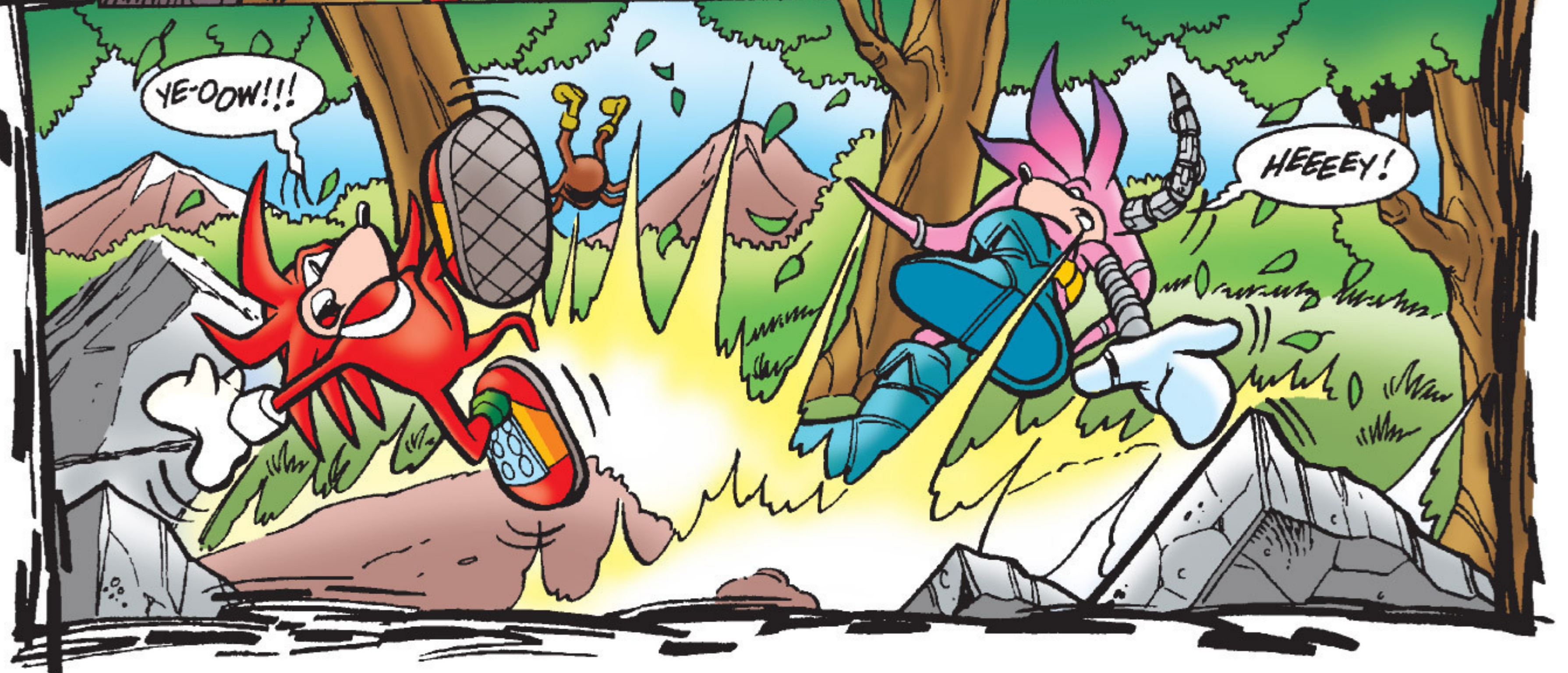
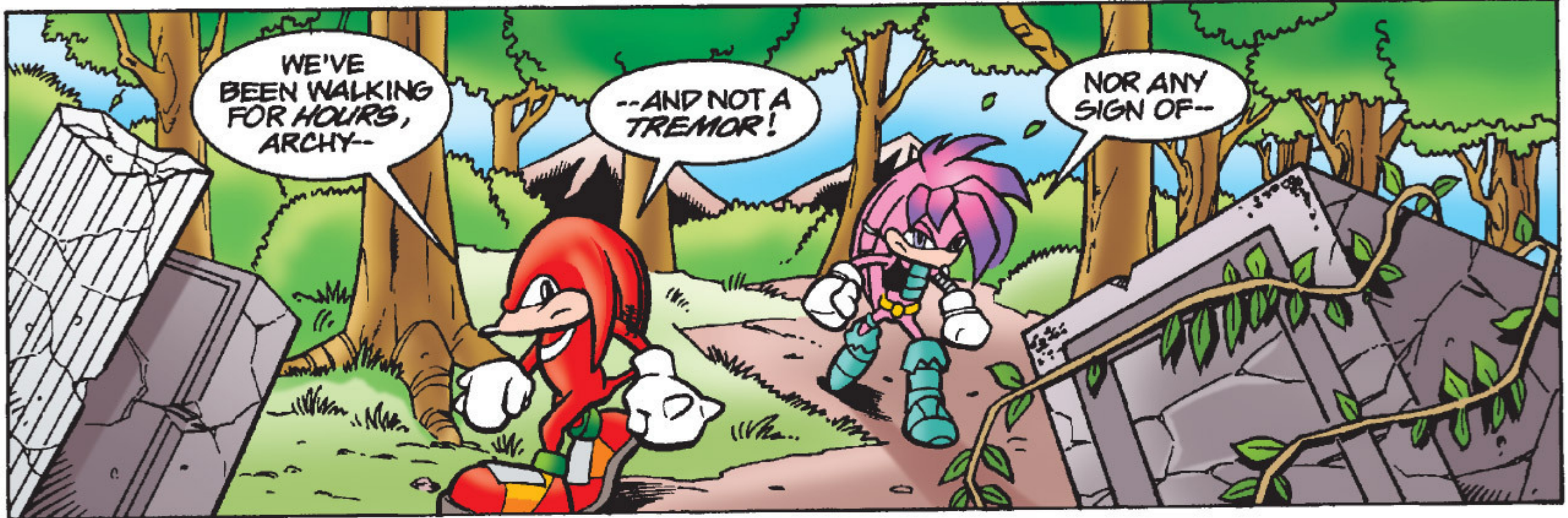
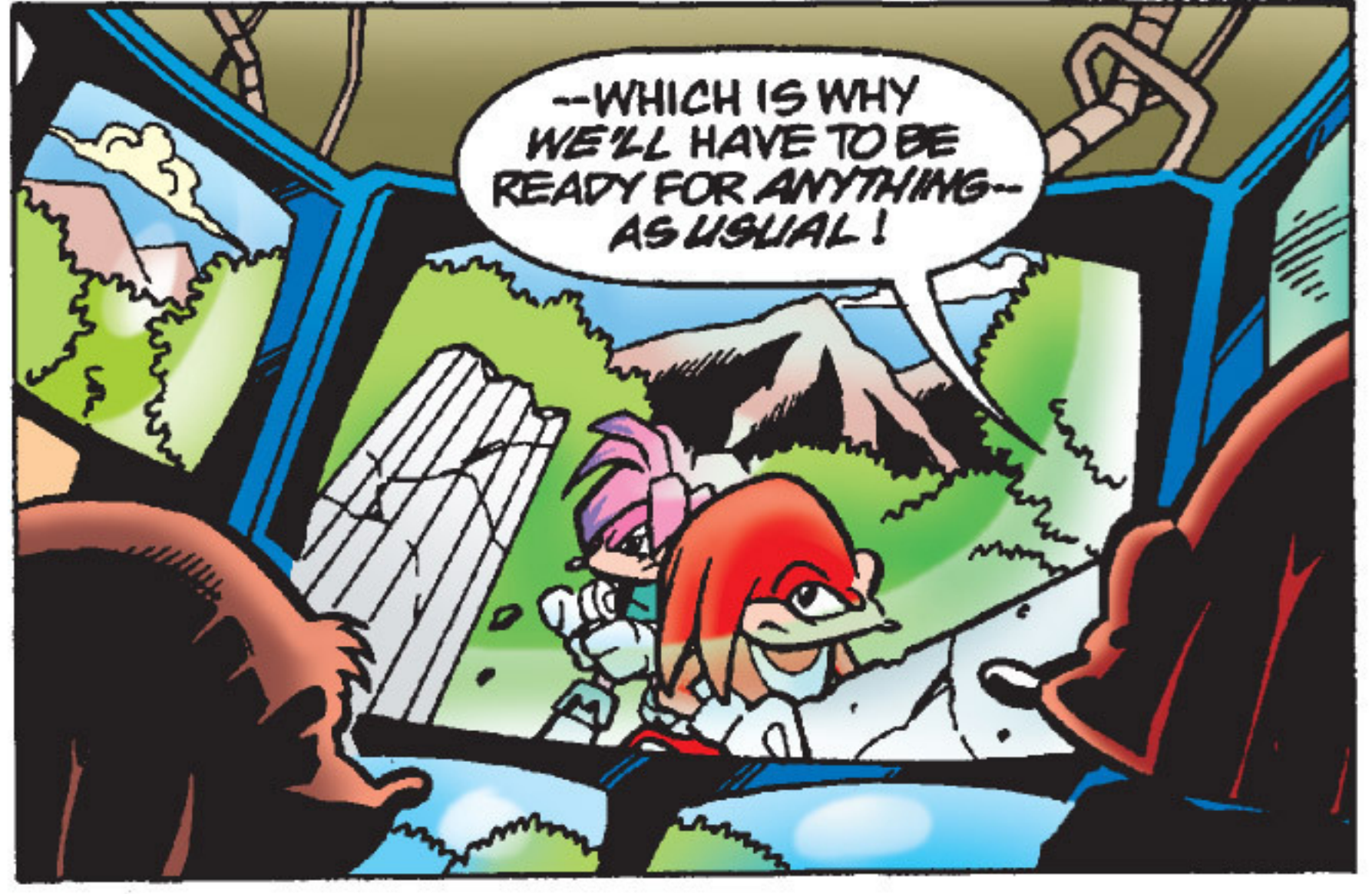
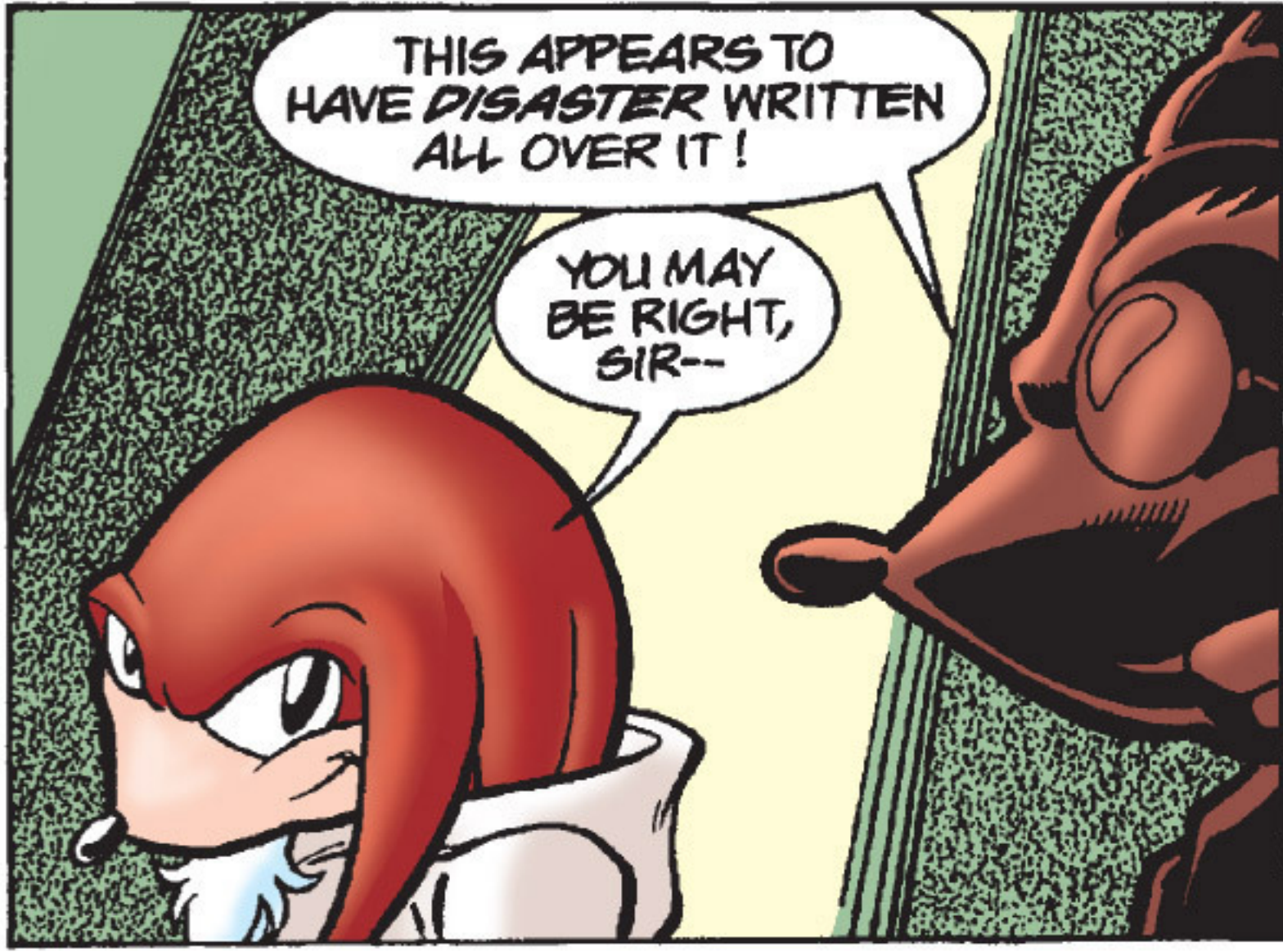
WE EXPERIENCED SOME MAJOR DISTURBANCES--

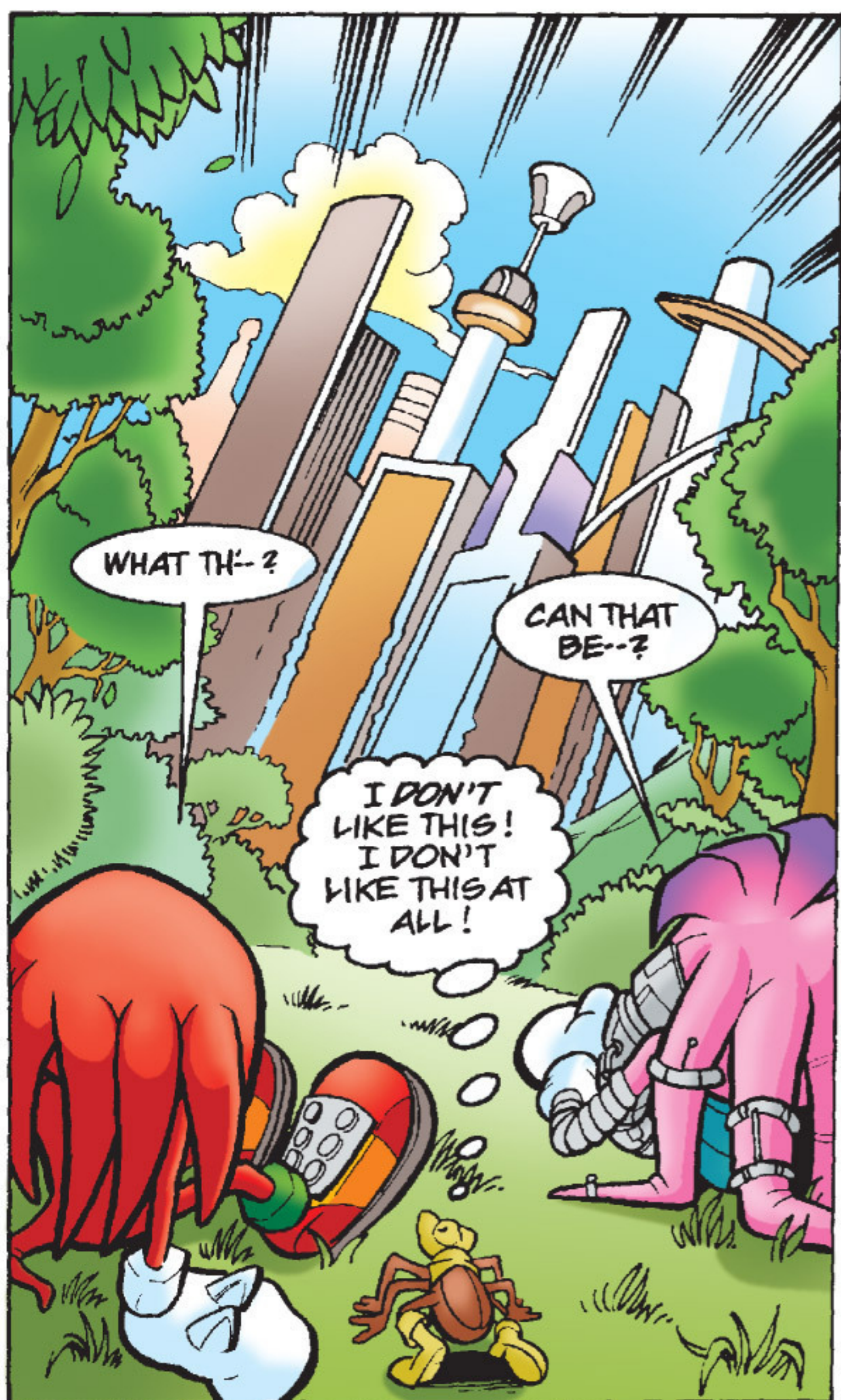
--LIKE THE GROUND WAS SHAKING, KID!

SHAKING?!!





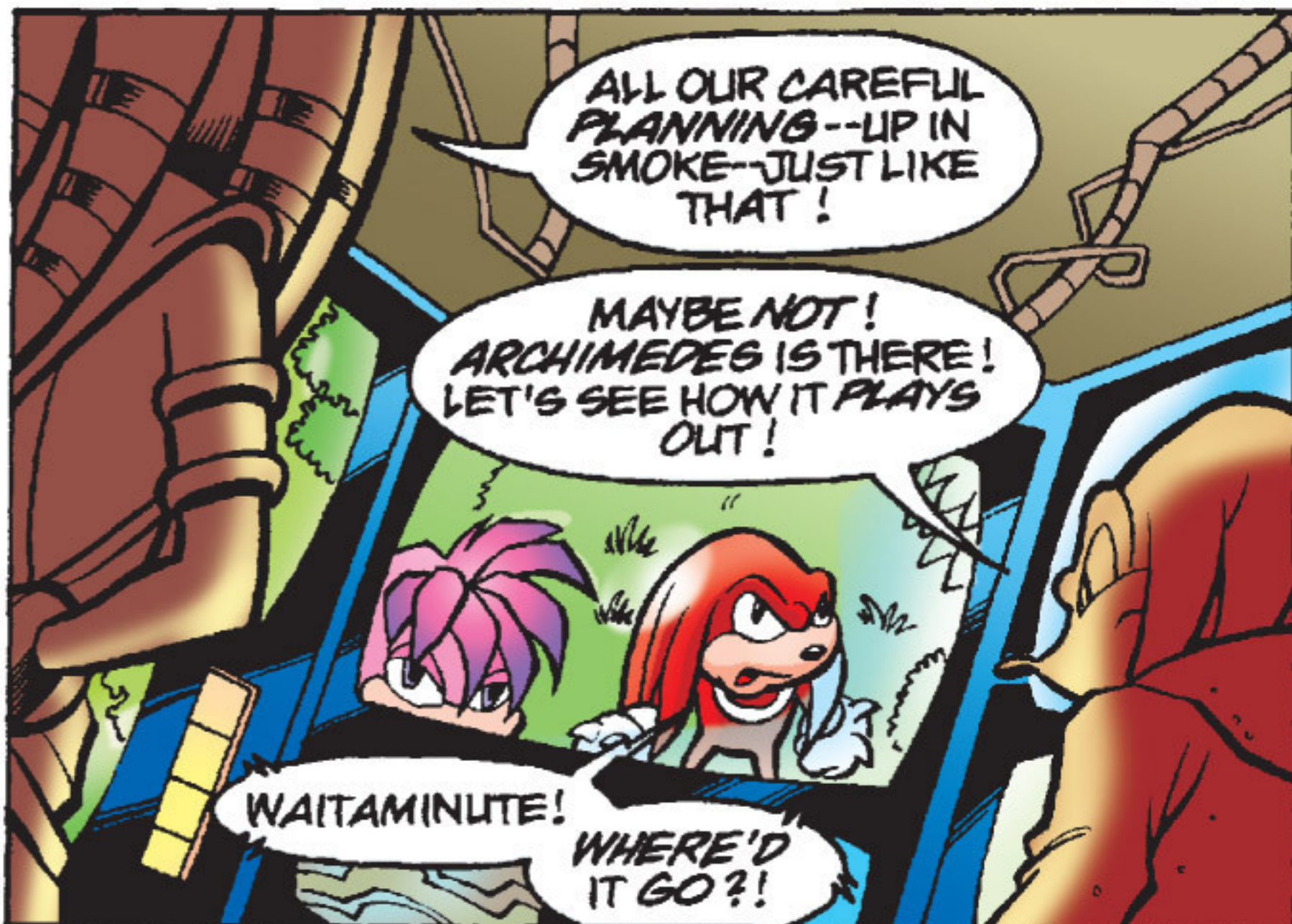




WHAT TH--?

CAN THAT BE--?

I DON'T LIKE THIS!
I DON'T LIKE THIS AT ALL!

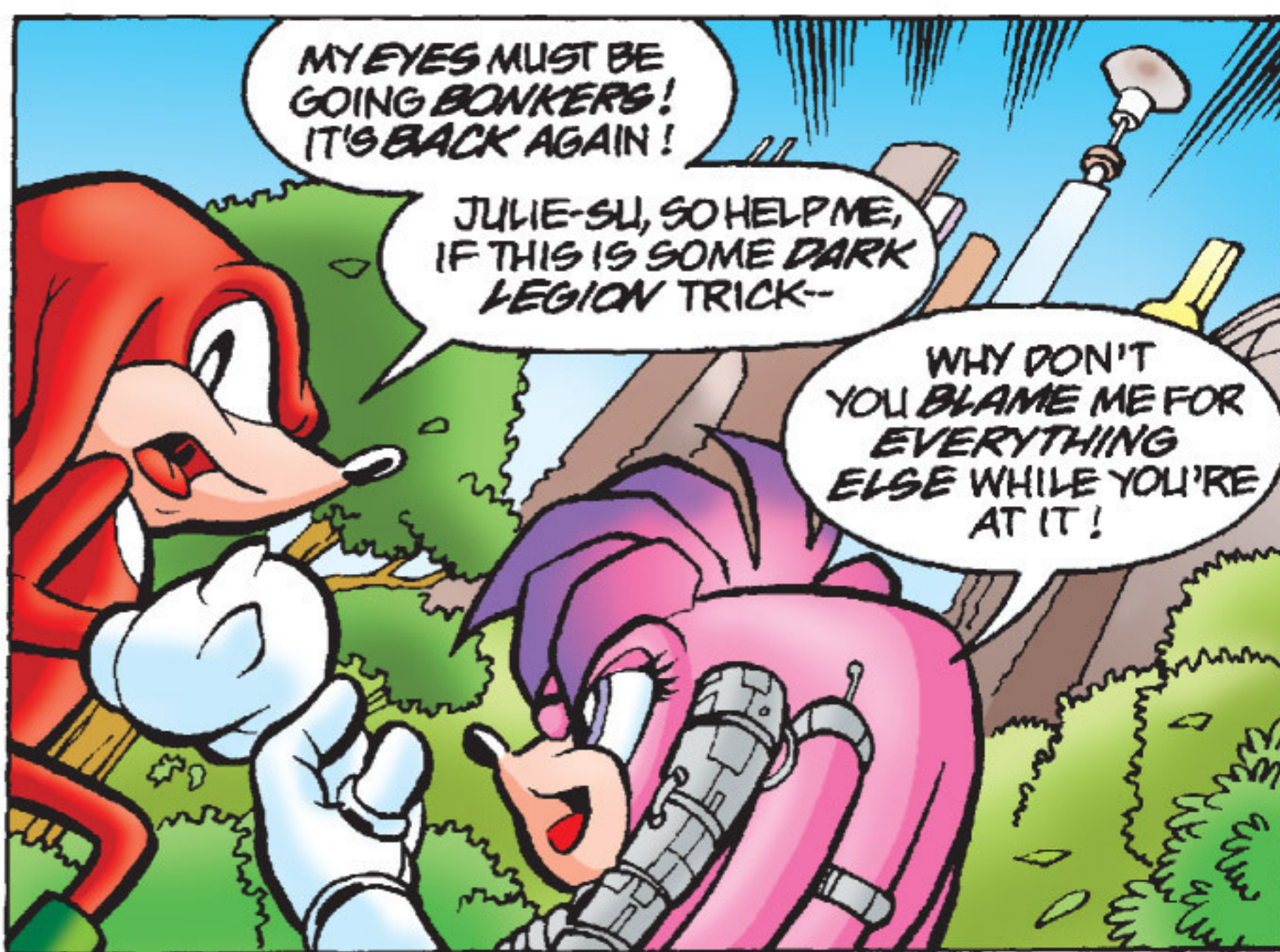


ALL OUR CAREFUL PLANNING--UP IN SMOKE--JUST LIKE THAT!

MAYBE NOT!
ARCHIMEDES IS THERE!
LET'S SEE HOW IT PLAYS OUT!

WAIT A MINUTE!

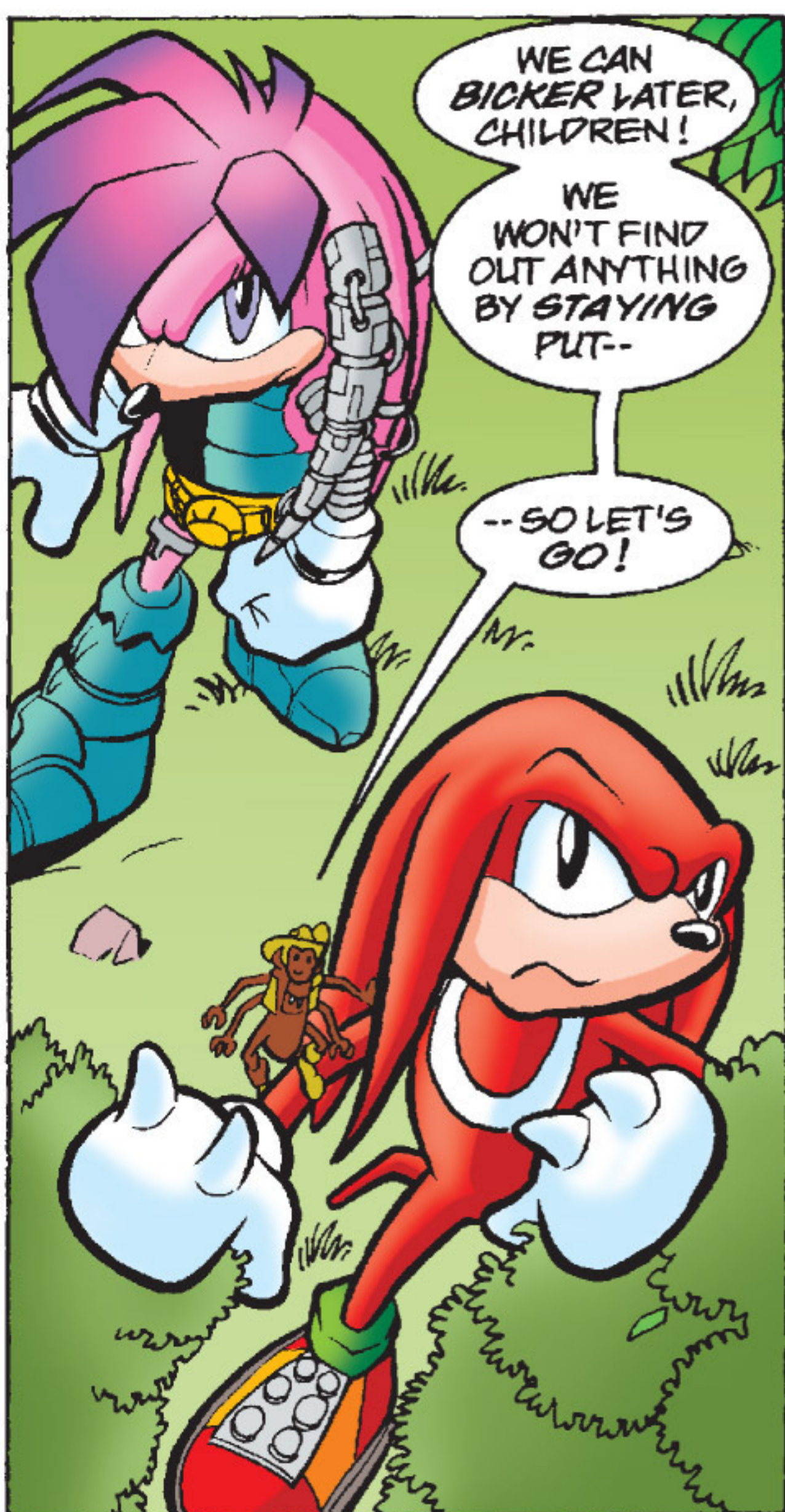
WHERE'D IT GO?!



MY EYES MUST BE GOING BONKERS!
IT'S BACK AGAIN!

JULIE-SU, SO HELP ME,
IF THIS IS SOME DARK LEGION TRICK--

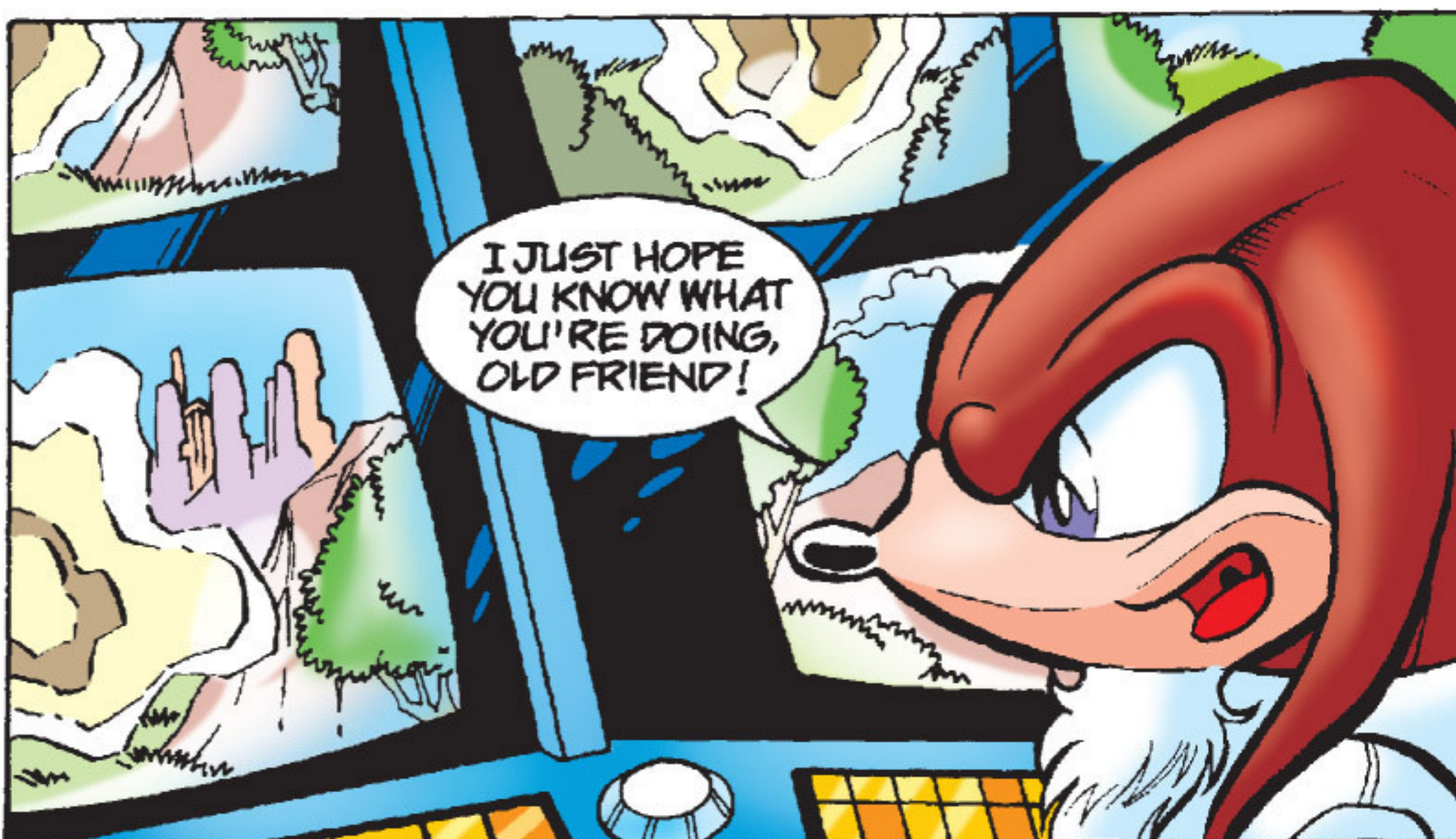
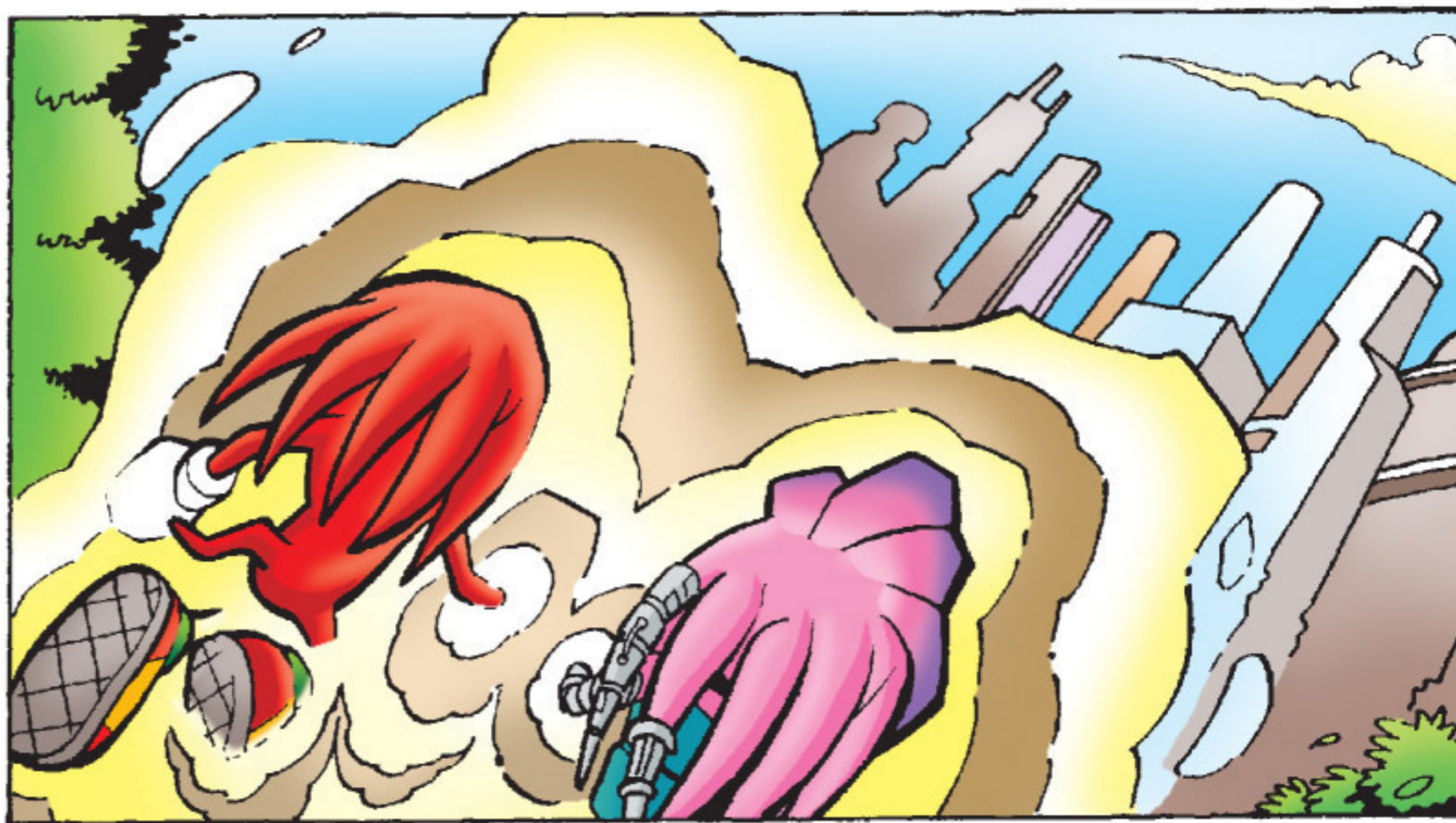
WHY DON'T YOU BLAME ME FOR EVERYTHING ELSE WHILE YOU'RE AT IT!



WE CAN BICKER LATER,
CHILDREN!

WE WON'T FIND OUT ANYTHING
BY STAYING PUT--

--SO LET'S GO!



I JUST HOPE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING,
OLD FRIEND!



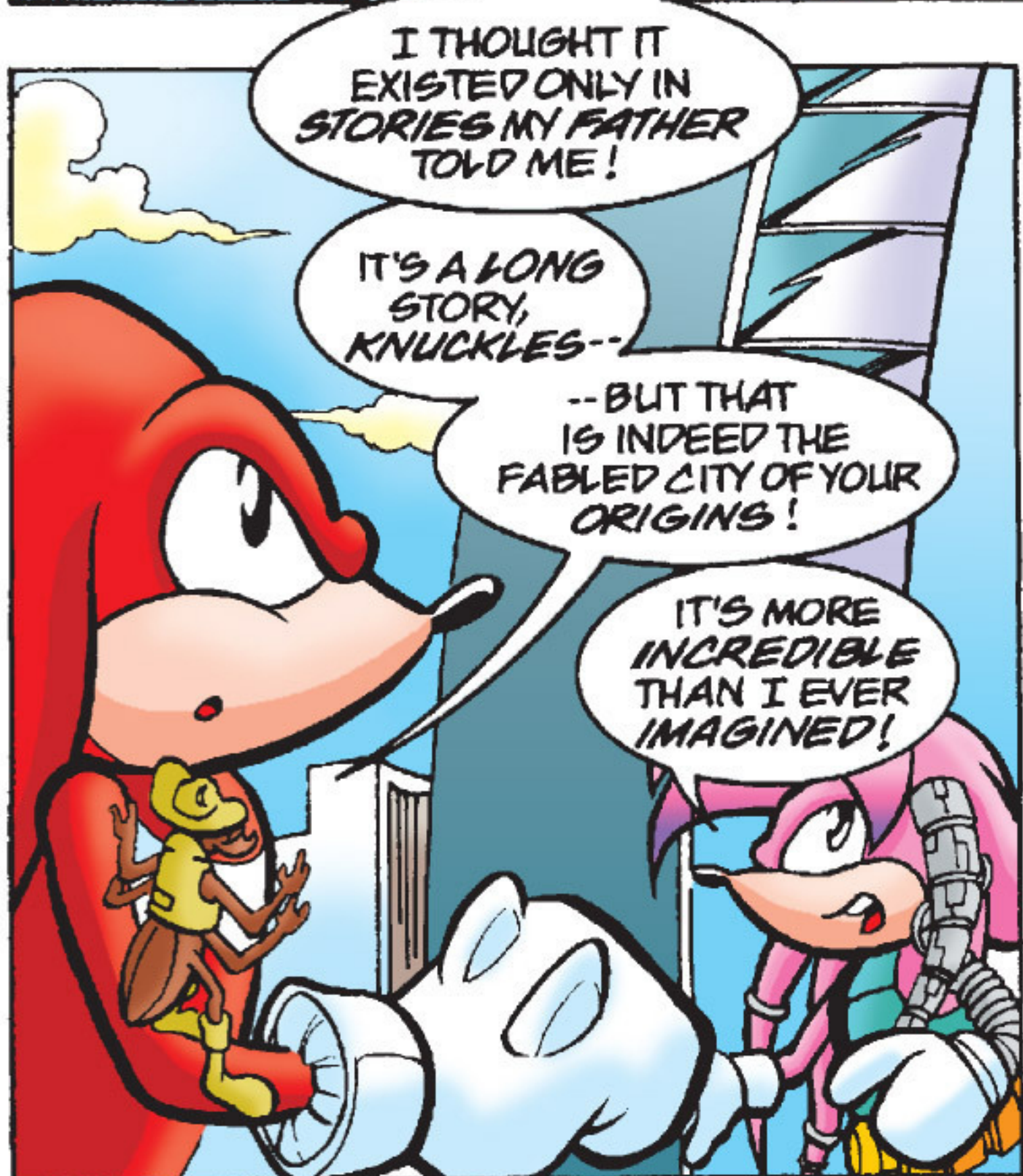
THIS CAN ONLY BE--

ECHIDNAOPOLIS!

WILD!

ABSOLUTELY WILD!

BUT HOW CAN THIS BE?

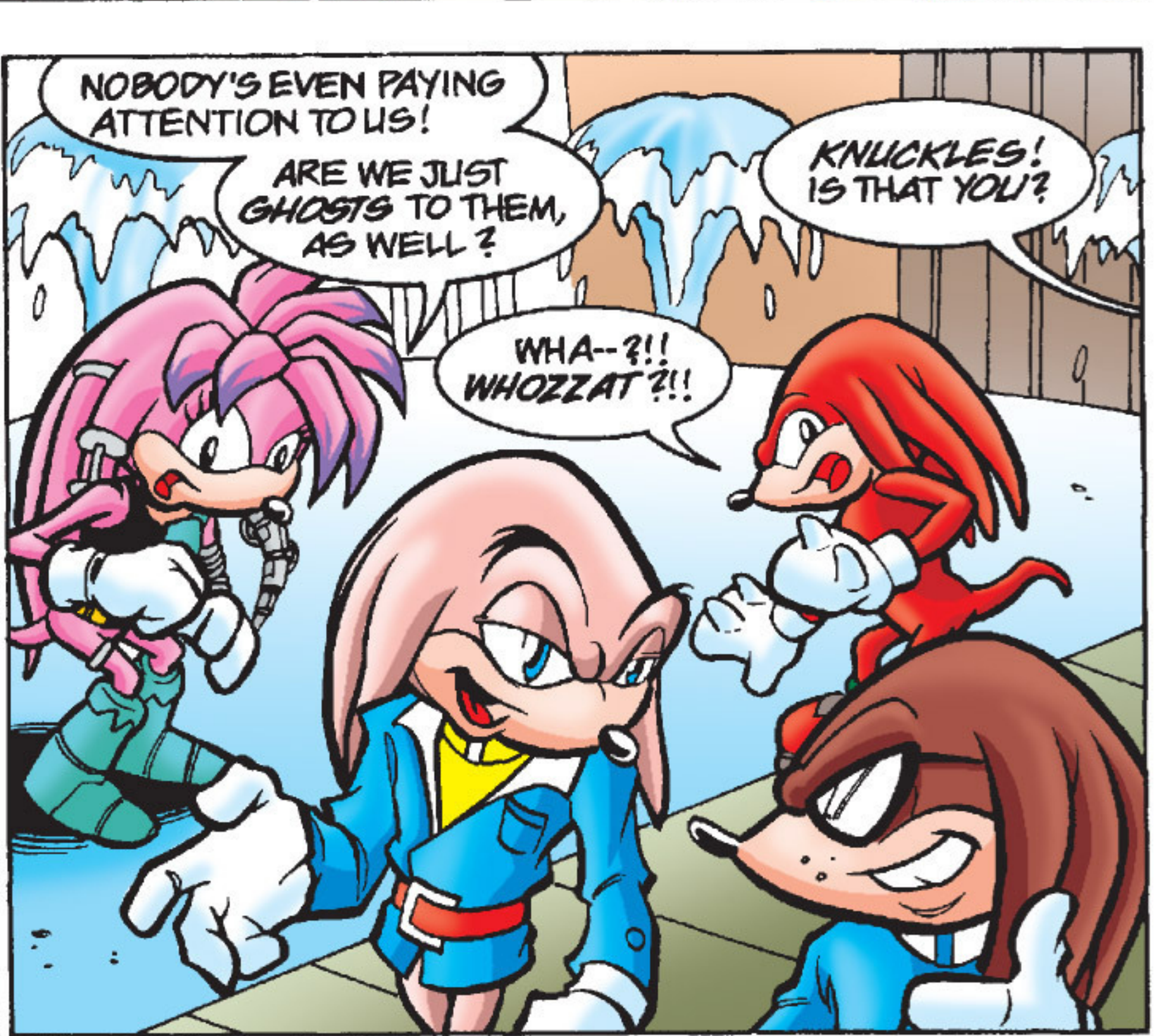


I THOUGHT IT EXISTED ONLY IN STORIES MY FATHER TOLD ME!

IT'S A LONG STORY, KNUCKLES--

-- BUT THAT IS INDEED THE FABLED CITY OF YOUR ORIGINS!

IT'S MORE INCREDIBLE THAN I EVER IMAGINED!

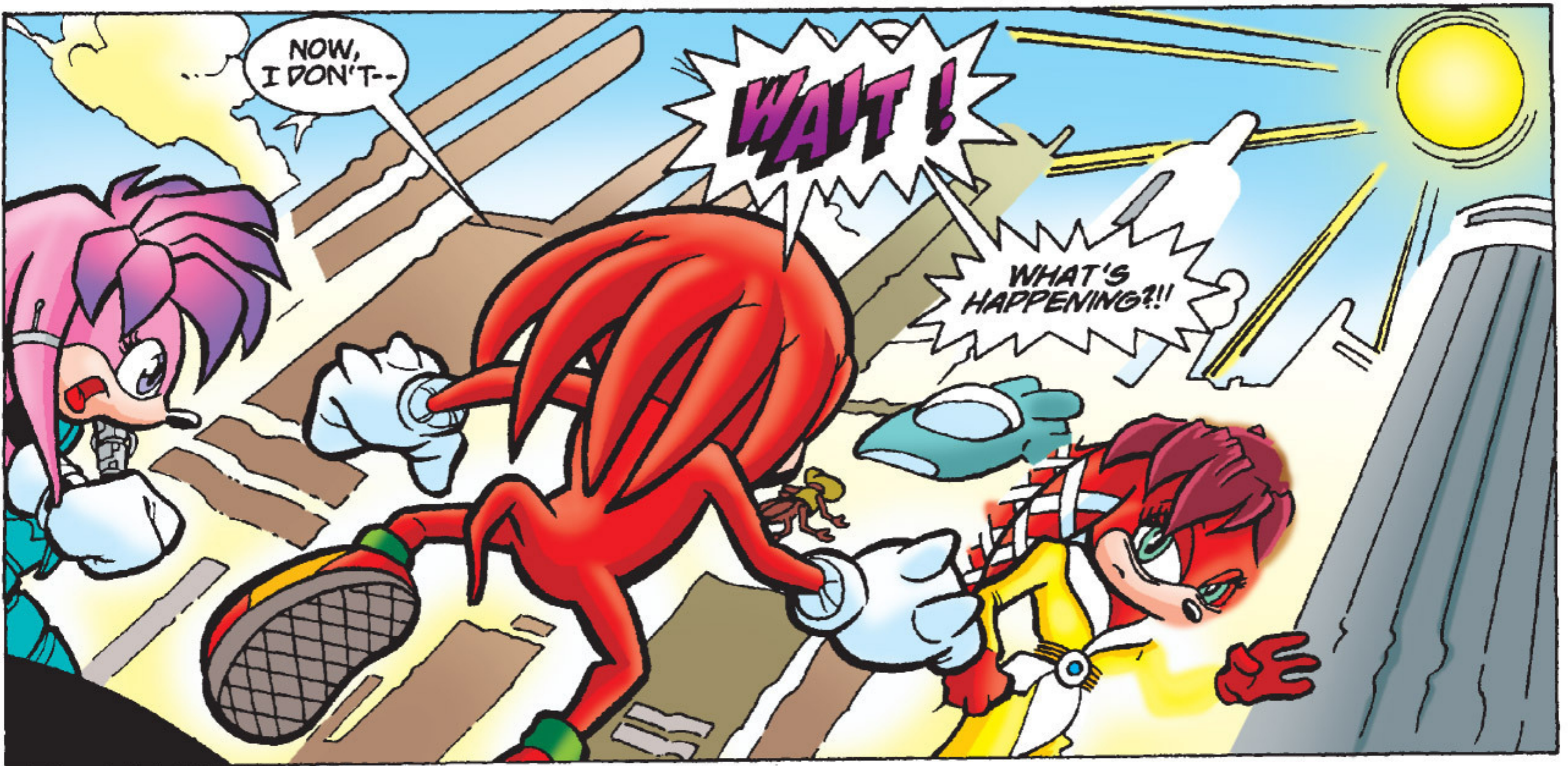
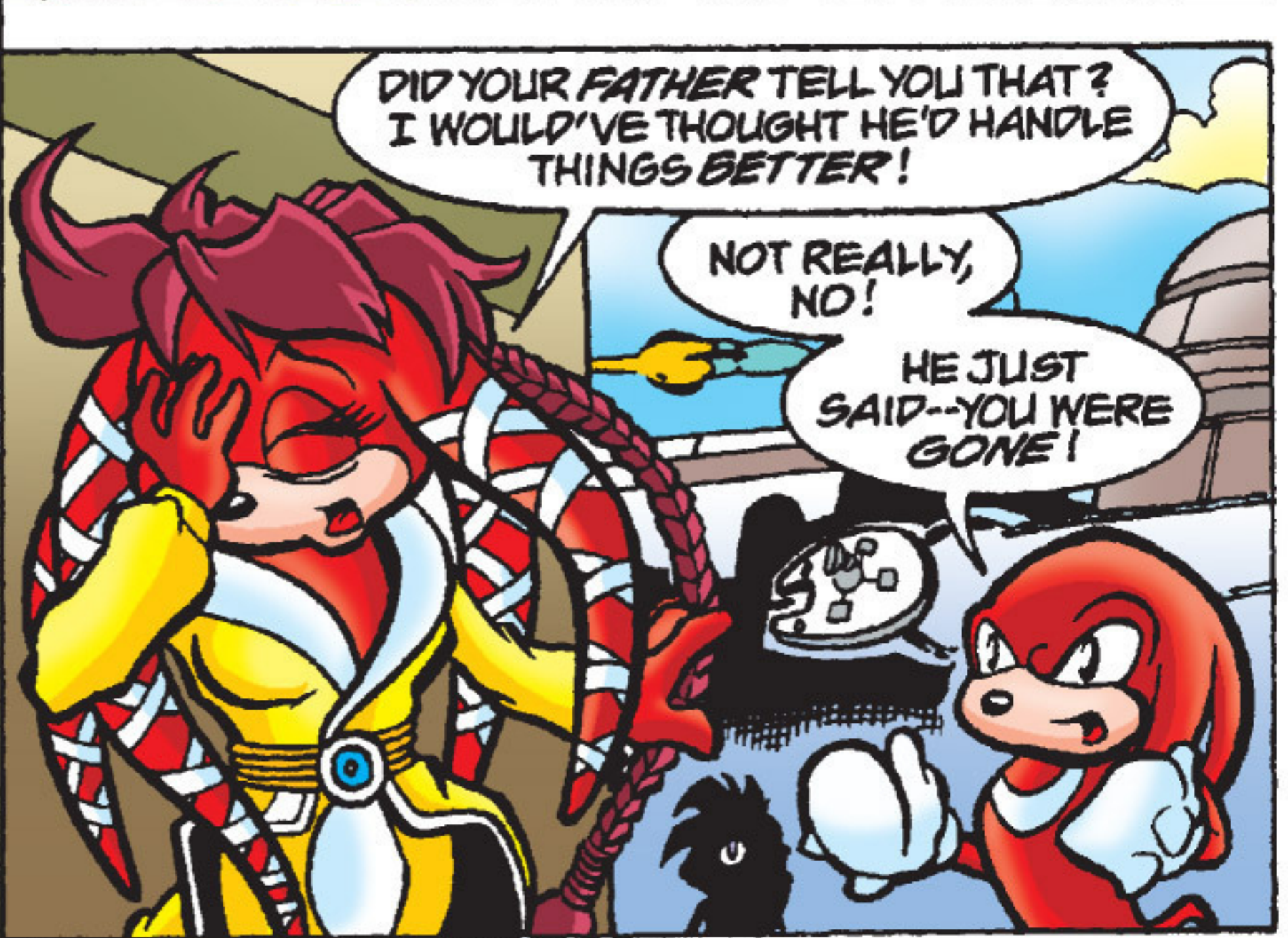
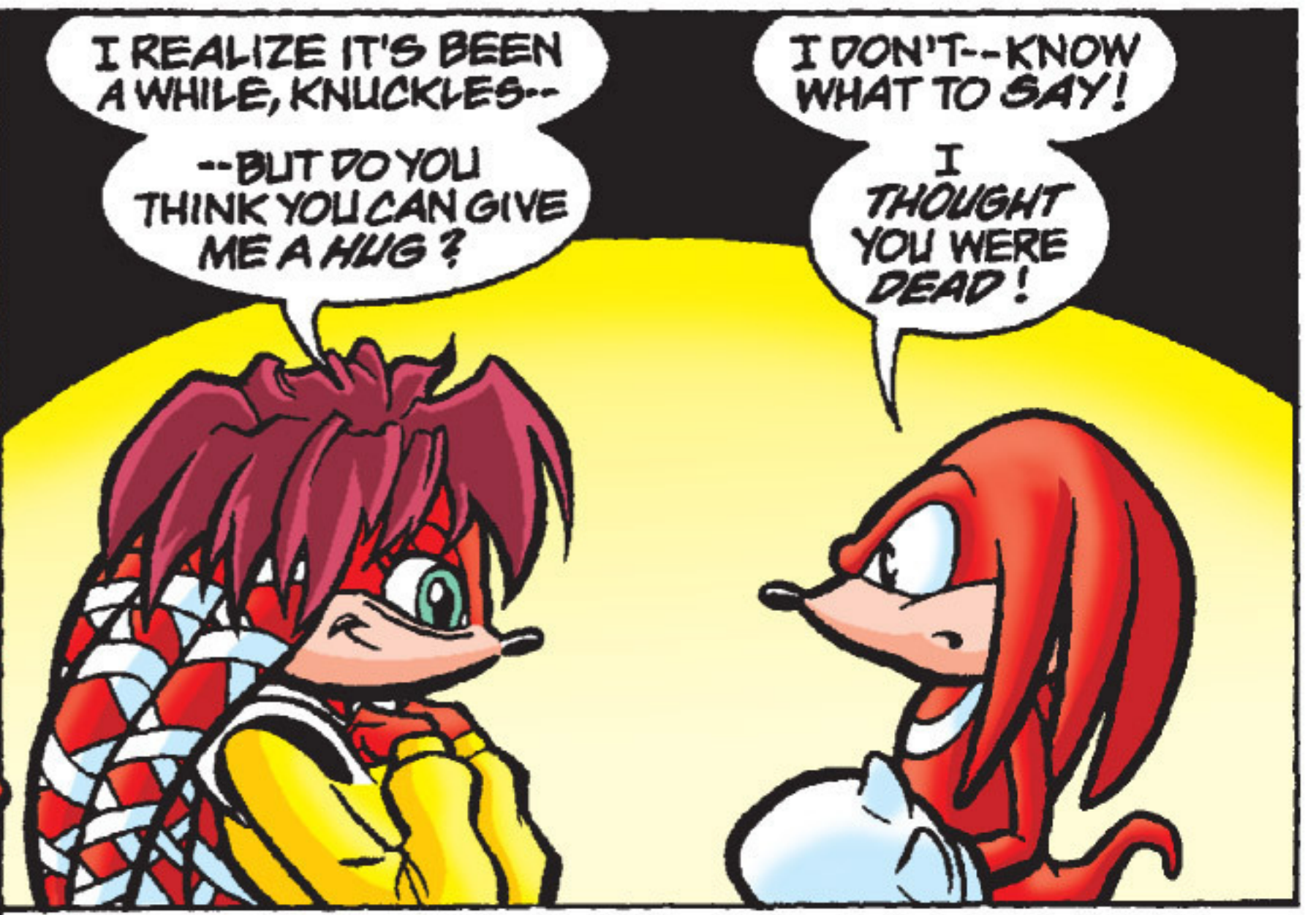


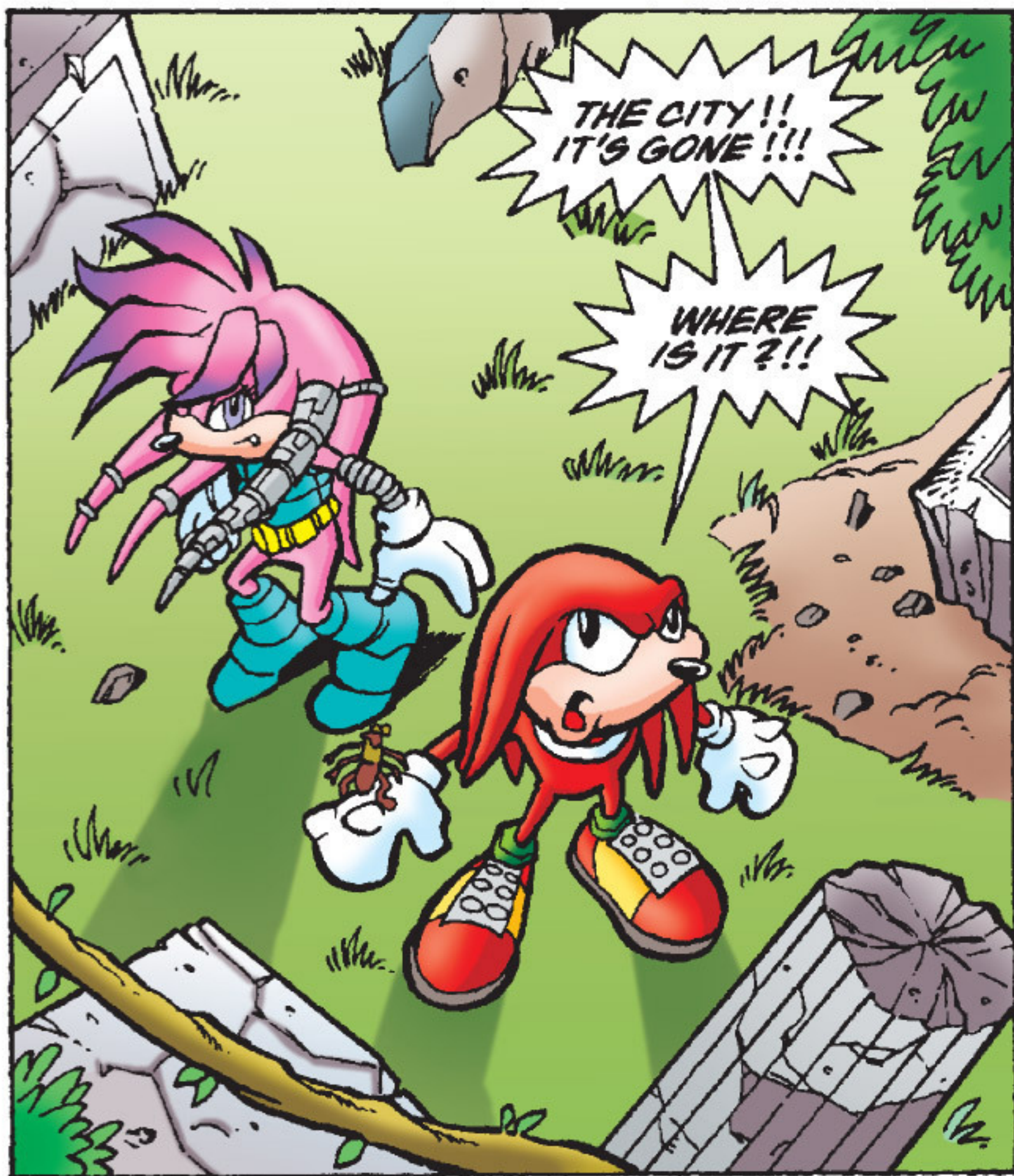
NOBODY'S EVEN PAYING ATTENTION TO US!

ARE WE JUST GHOSTS TO THEM, AS WELL?

KNUCKLES! IS THAT YOU?

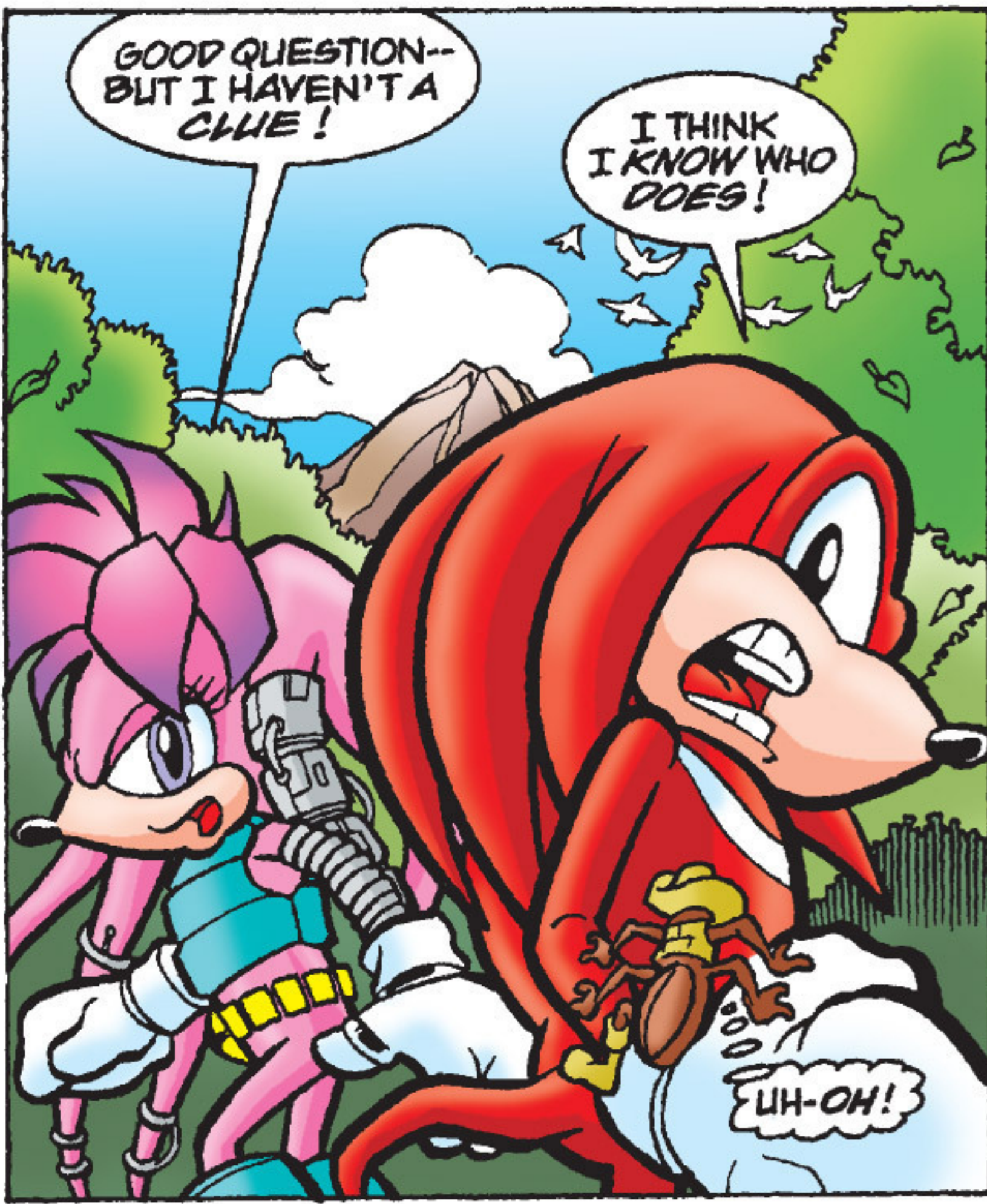
WHA--?!! WHOZZAT?!!





THE CITY!! IT'S GONE!!!

WHERE IS IT?!!



GOOD QUESTION-- BUT I HAVEN'T A CLUE!

I THINK I KNOW WHO DOES!

UH-OH!



I'M BETTING YOU KNOW, ARCHY!

I'LL BET YOU KNOW EVERYTHING-- WHAT THE DEAL IS WITH MY PARENTS-- WHY I HAVEN'T SEEN OTHER ECHIDNAS UNTIL RECENTLY--



--EVEN WHY I'M KEPT IN THE DARK ABOUT IT ALL!

KNUCKLES, PLEASE--

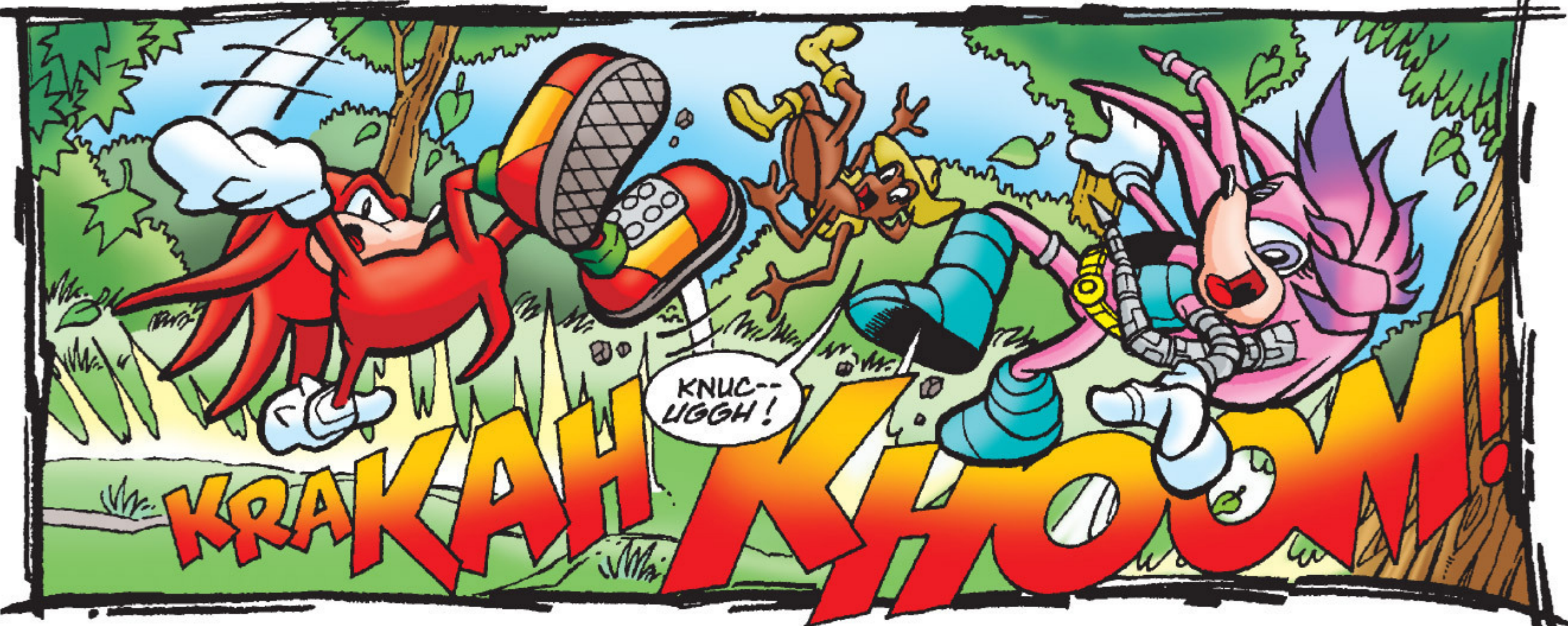
DON'T ASK!

YOU'RE NOT READY TO KNOW!



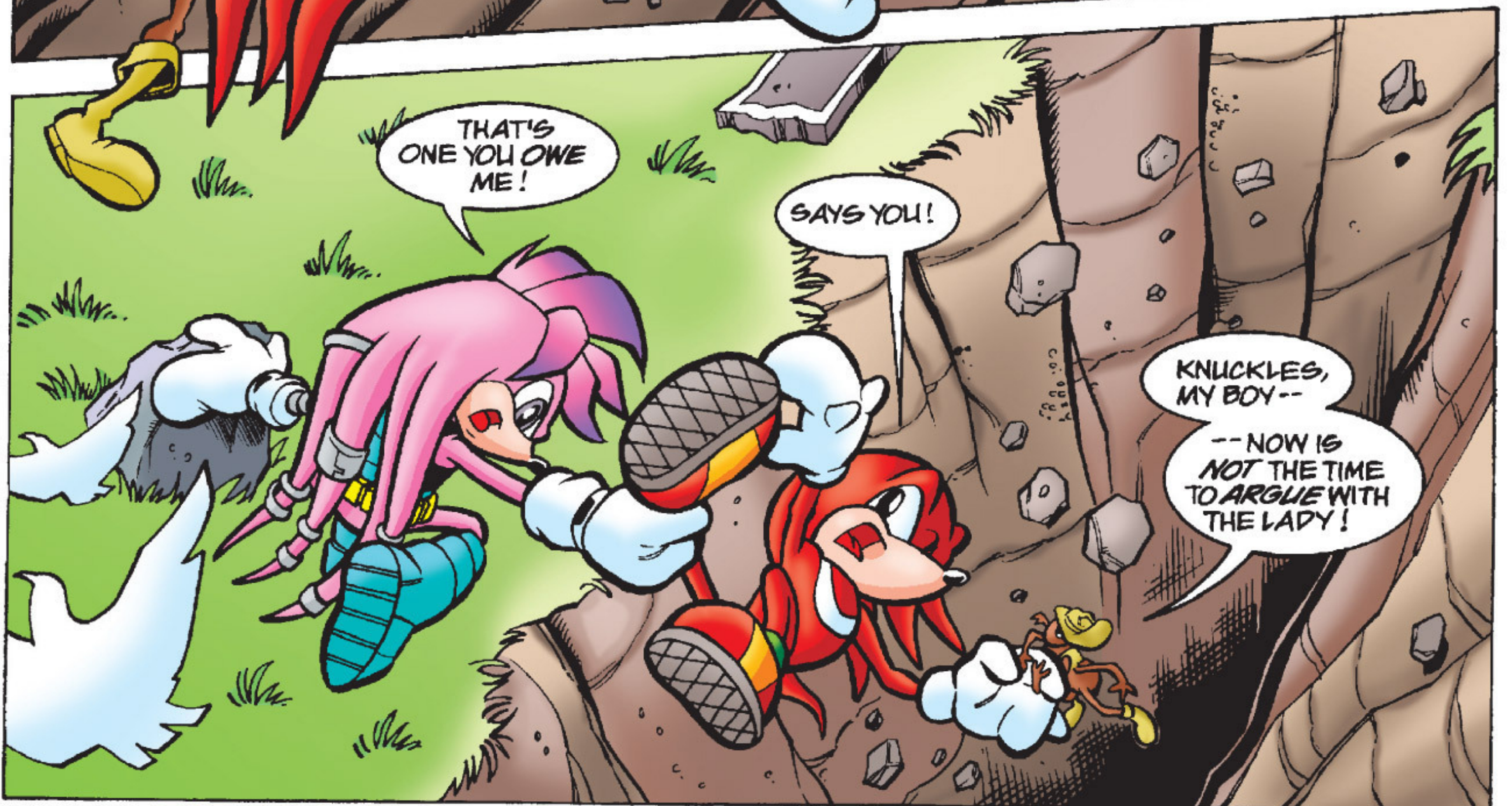
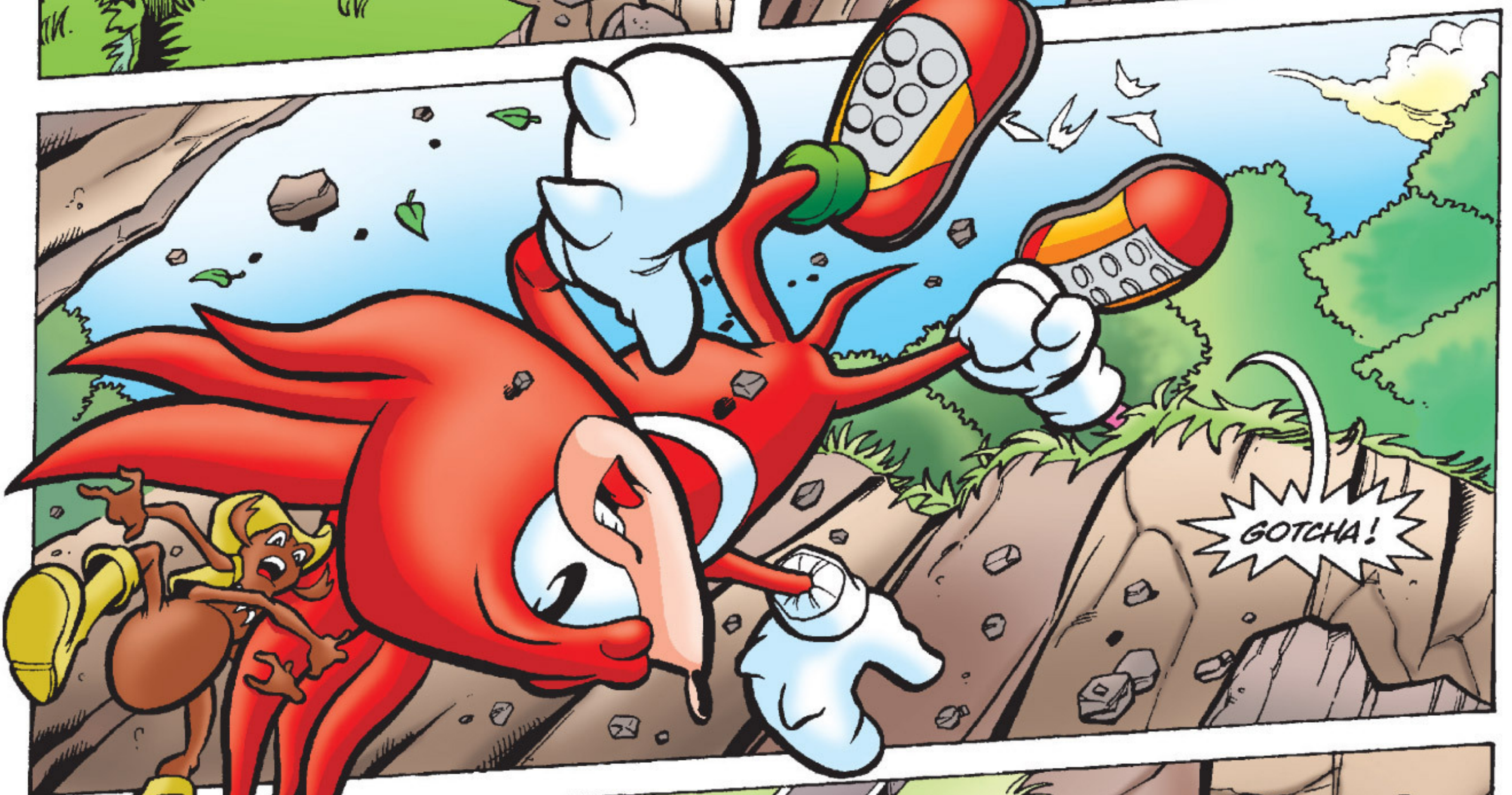
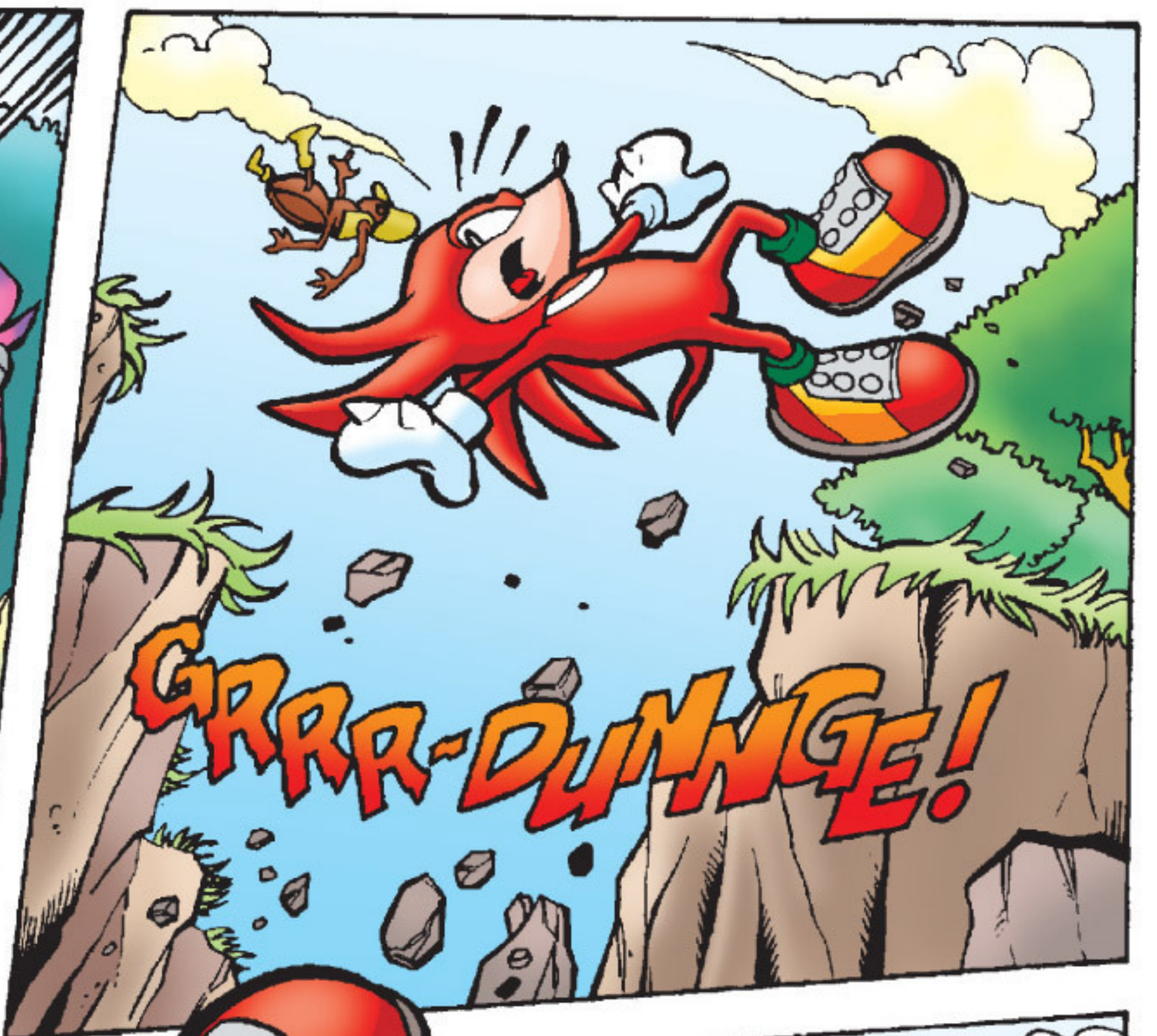
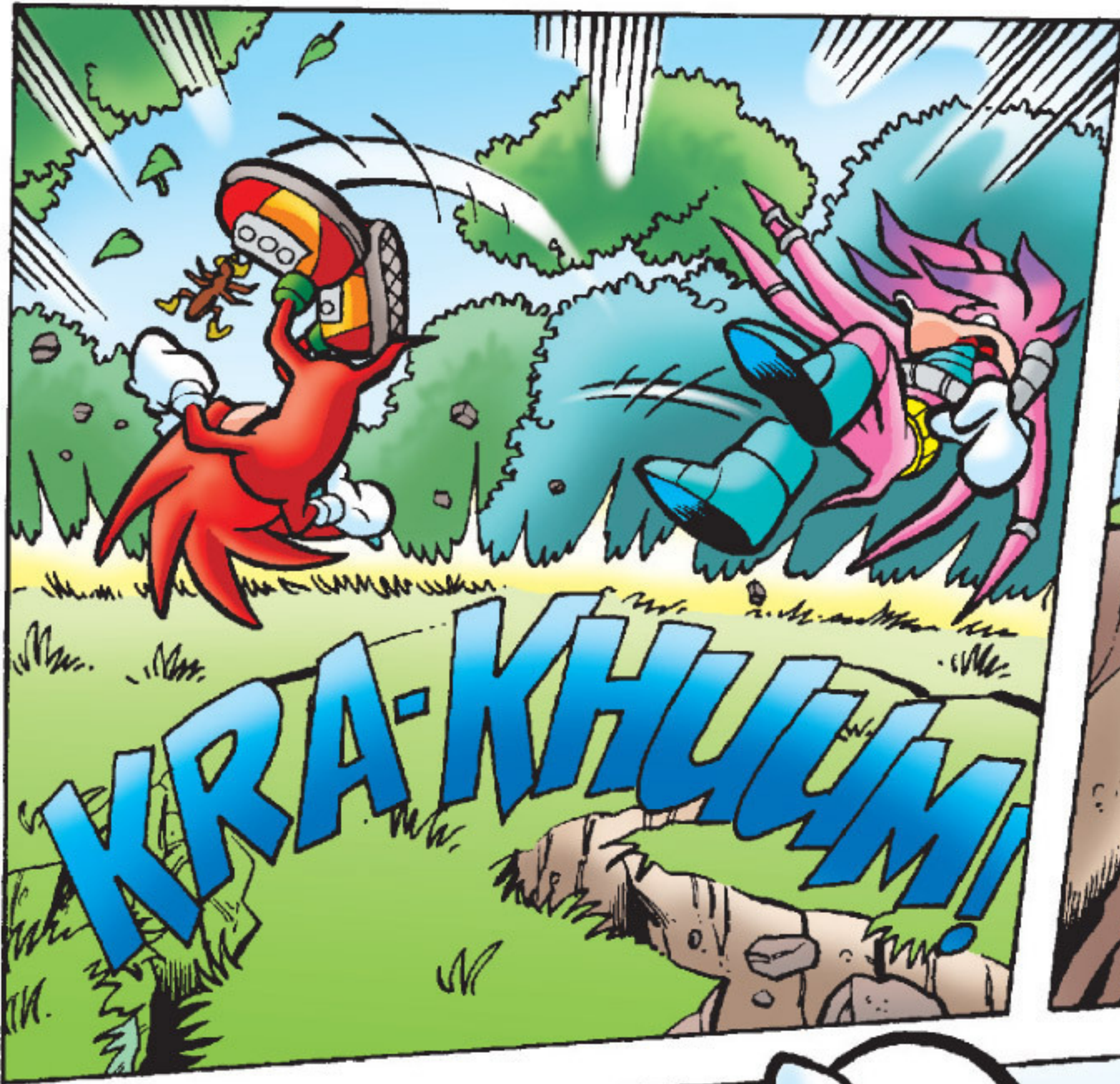
YEAH?

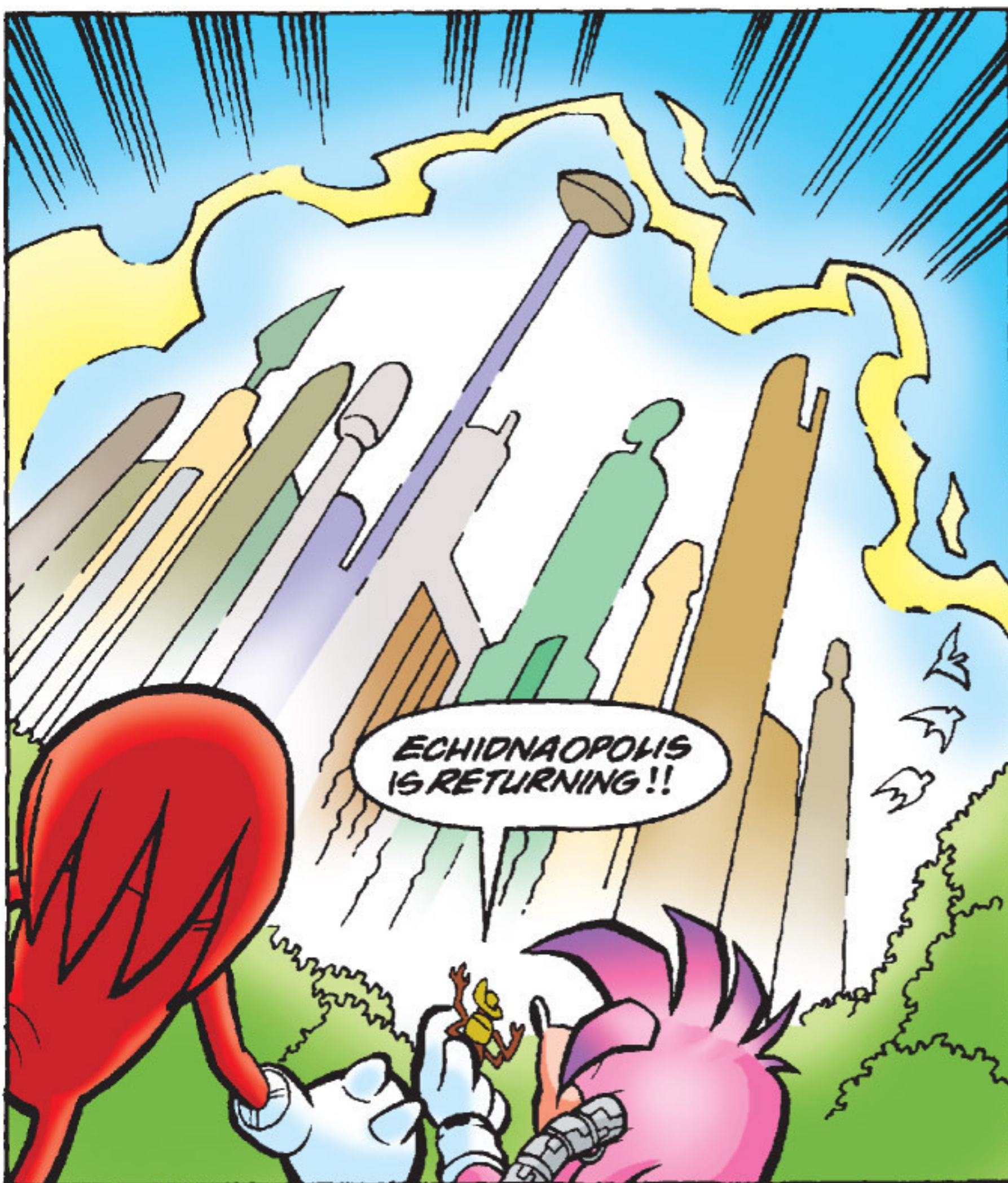
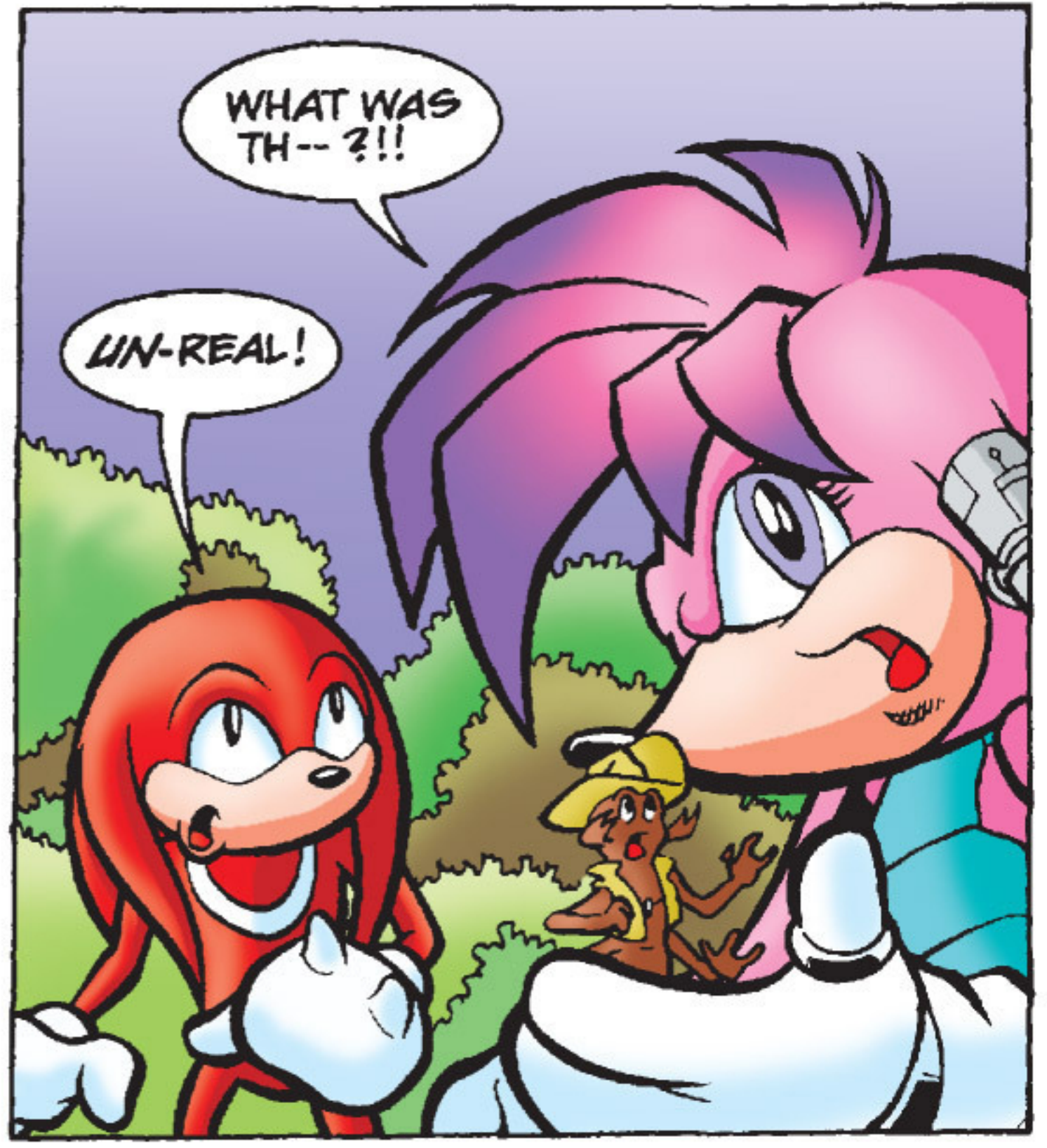
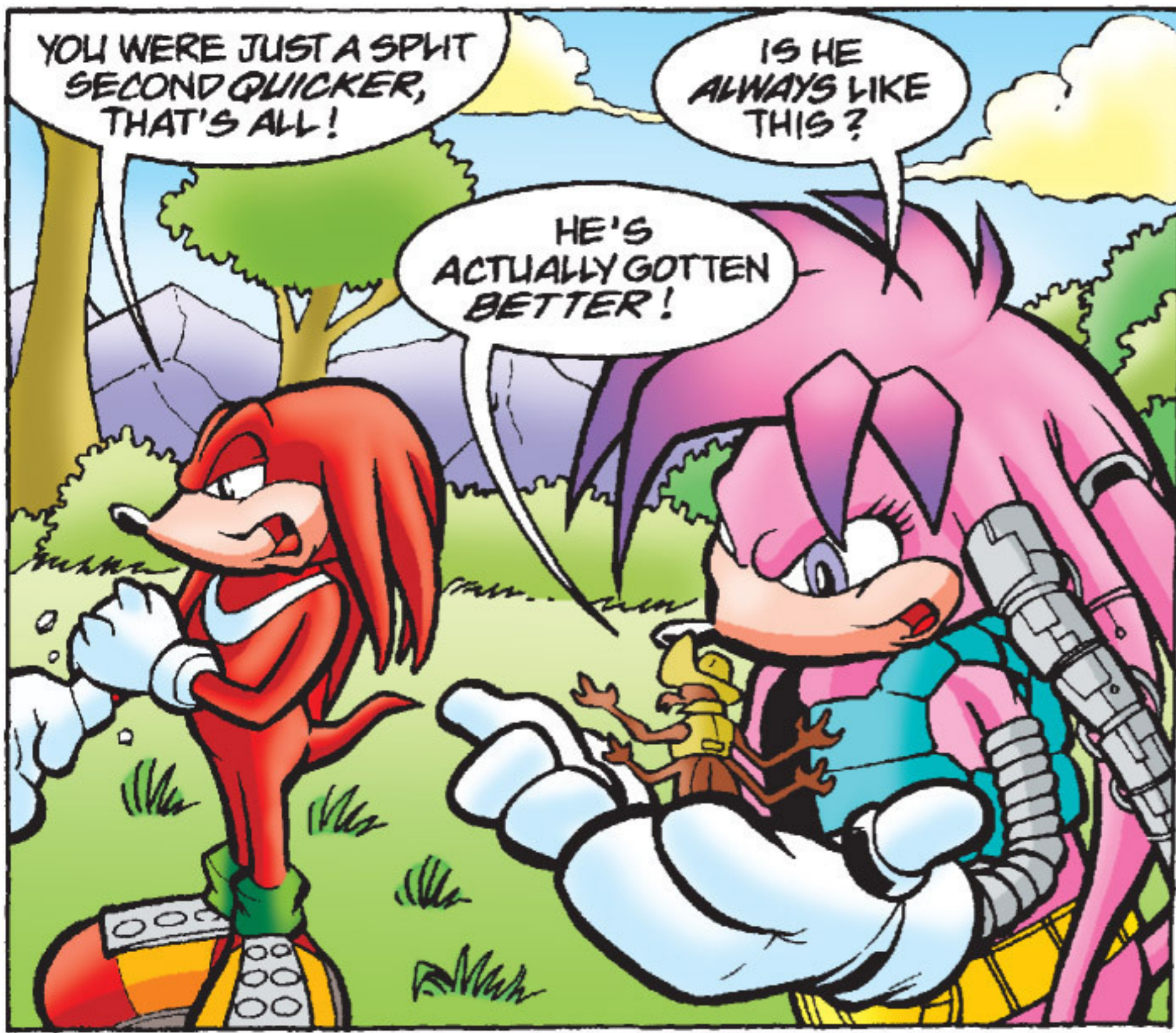
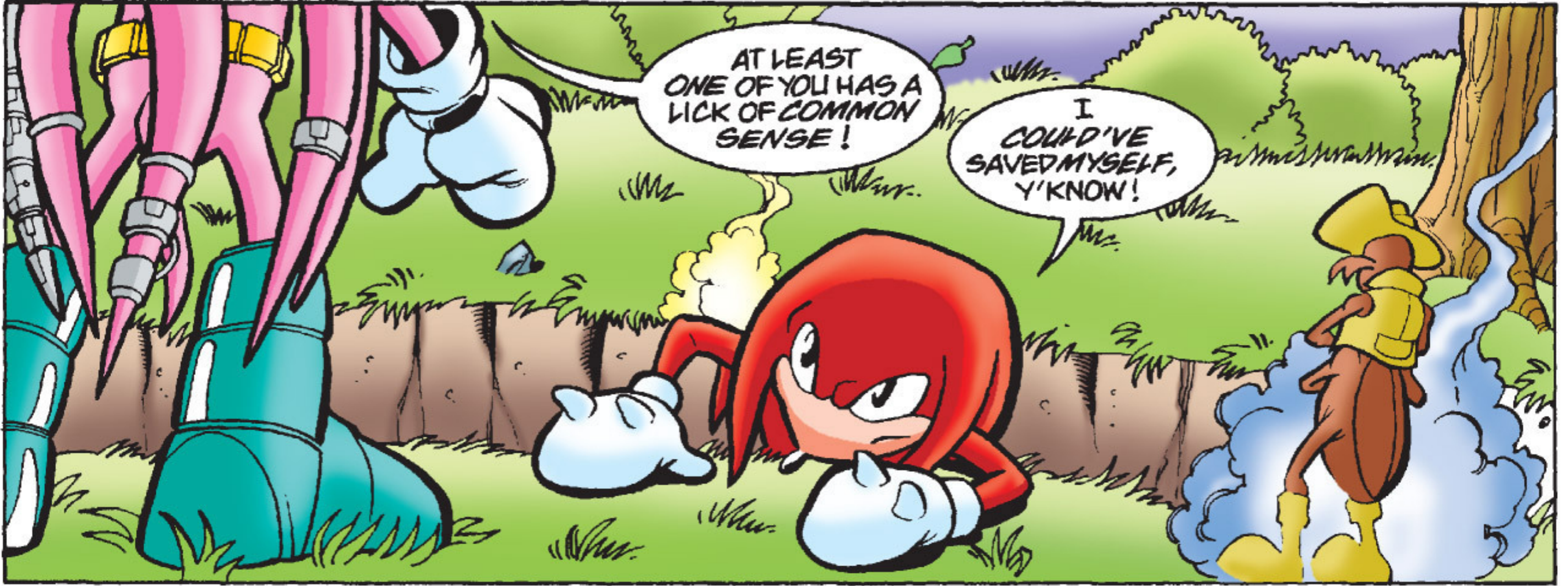
WHO SAID SO? YOU? MY FATHER?

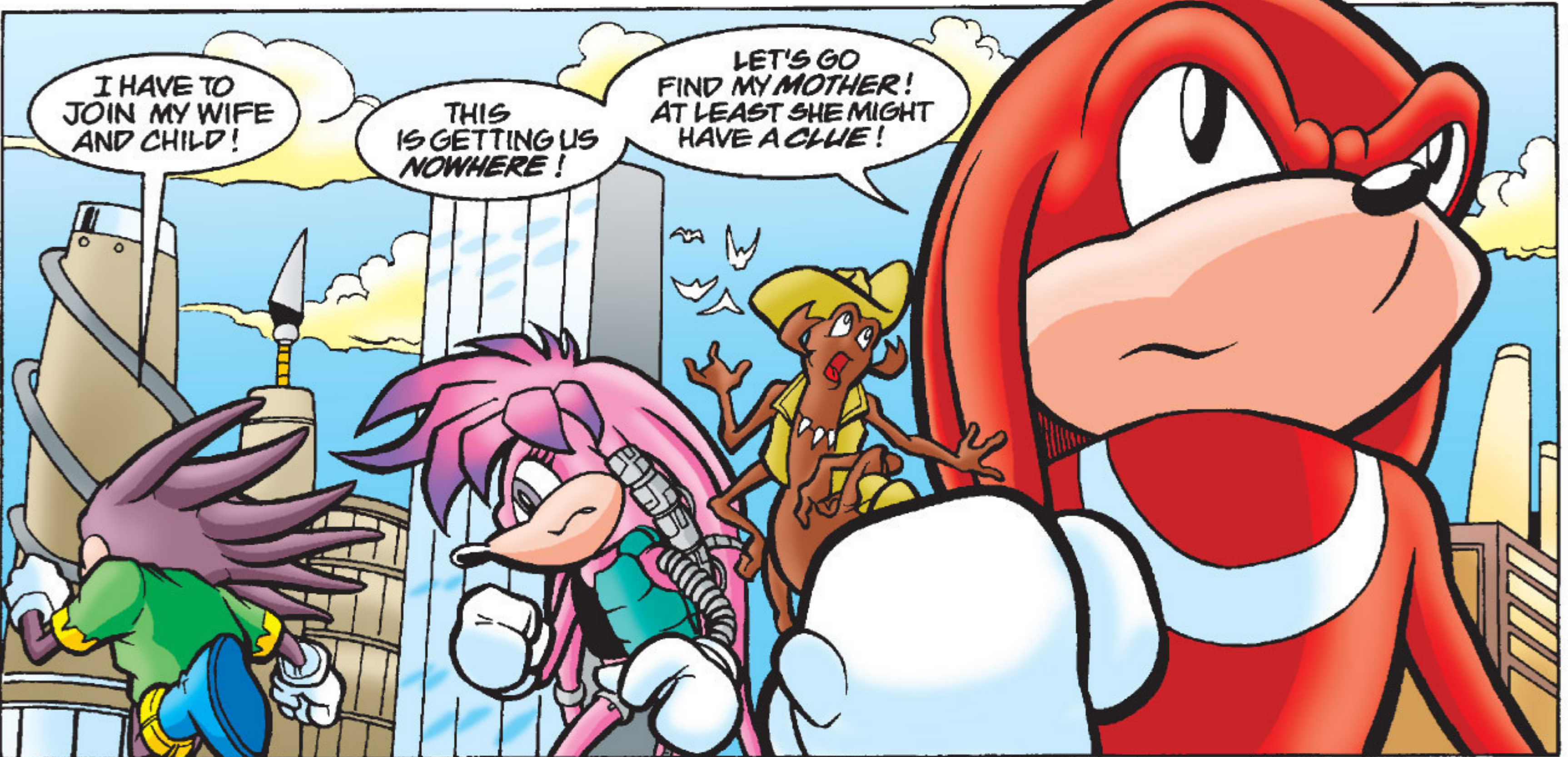
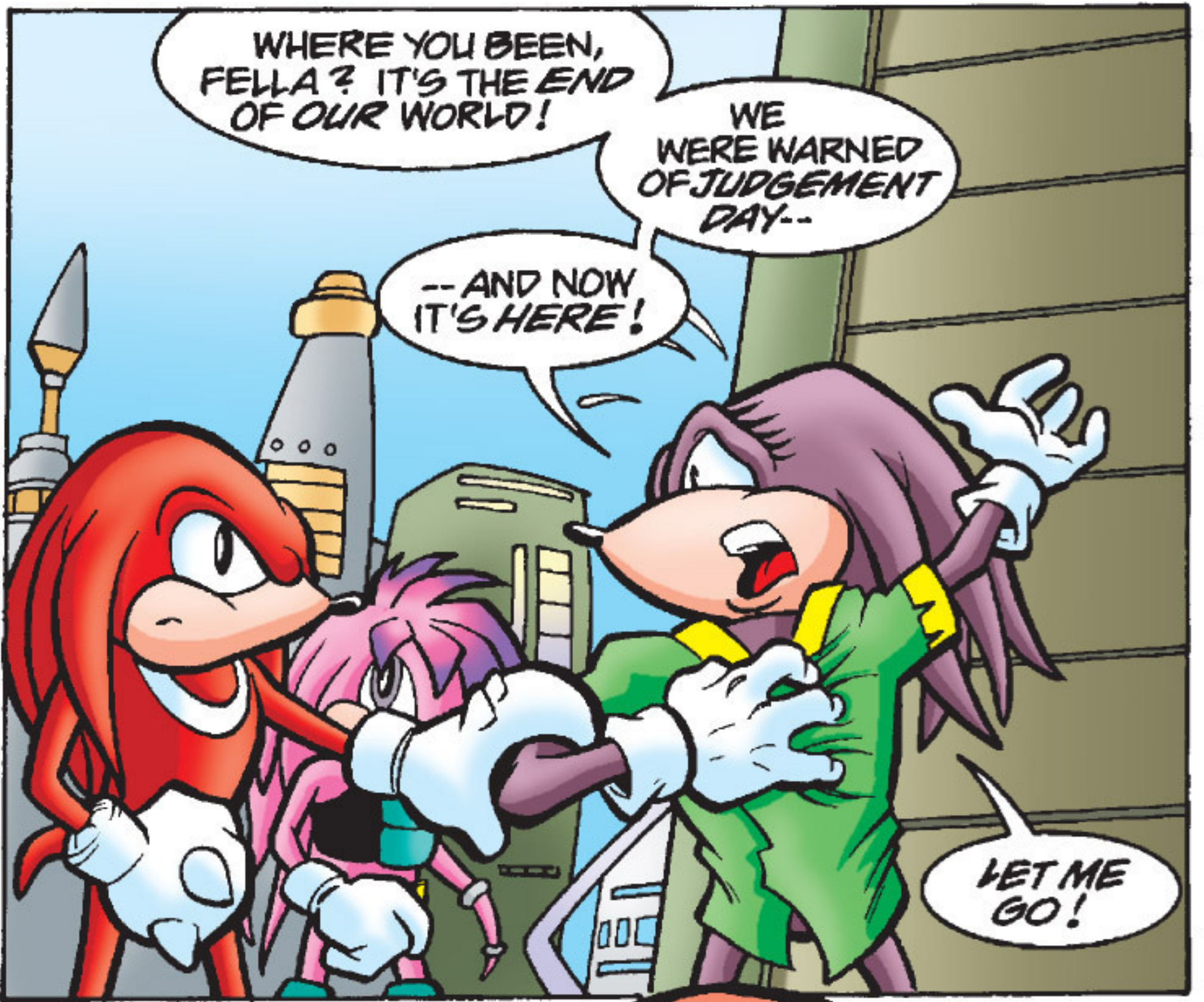
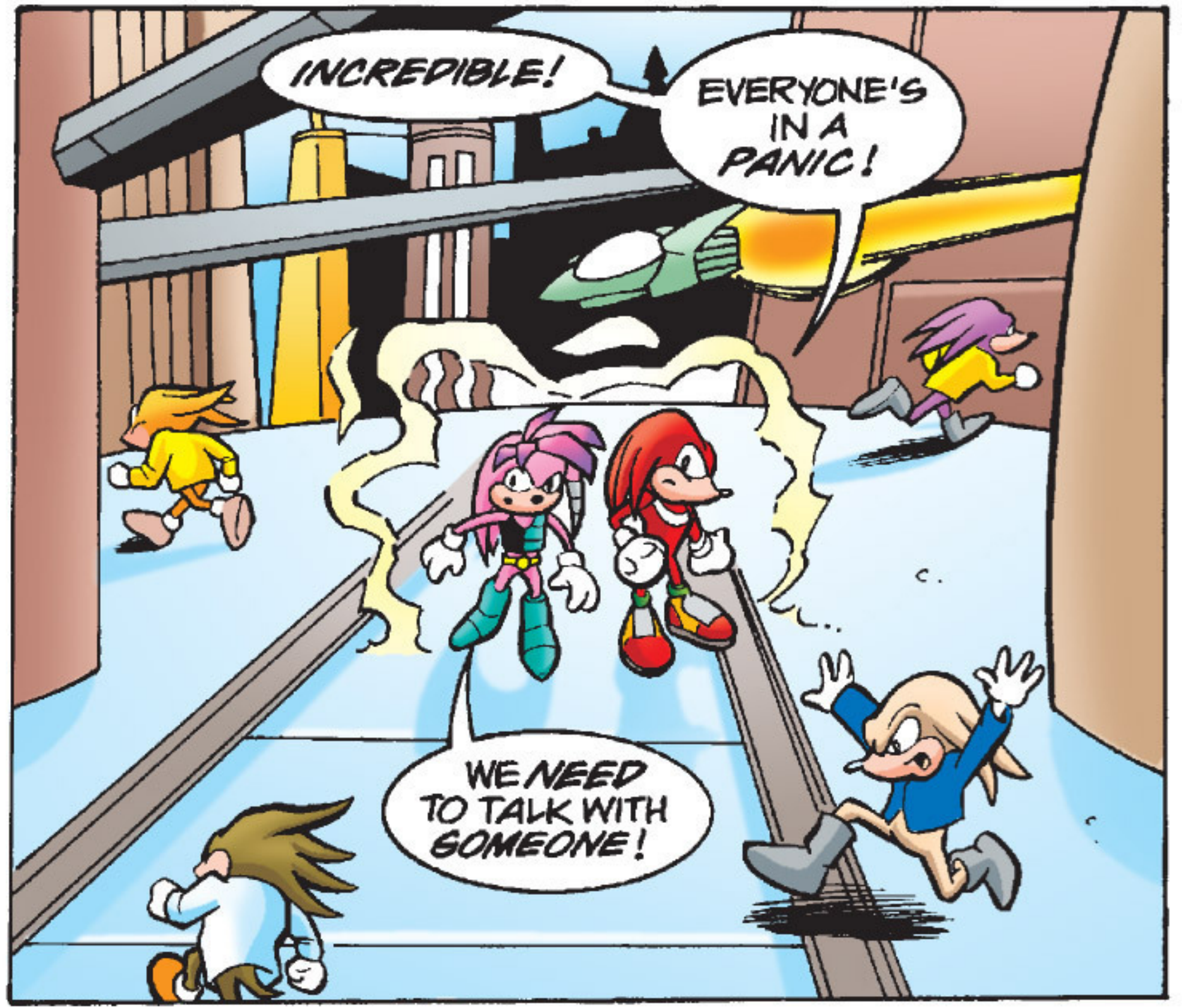


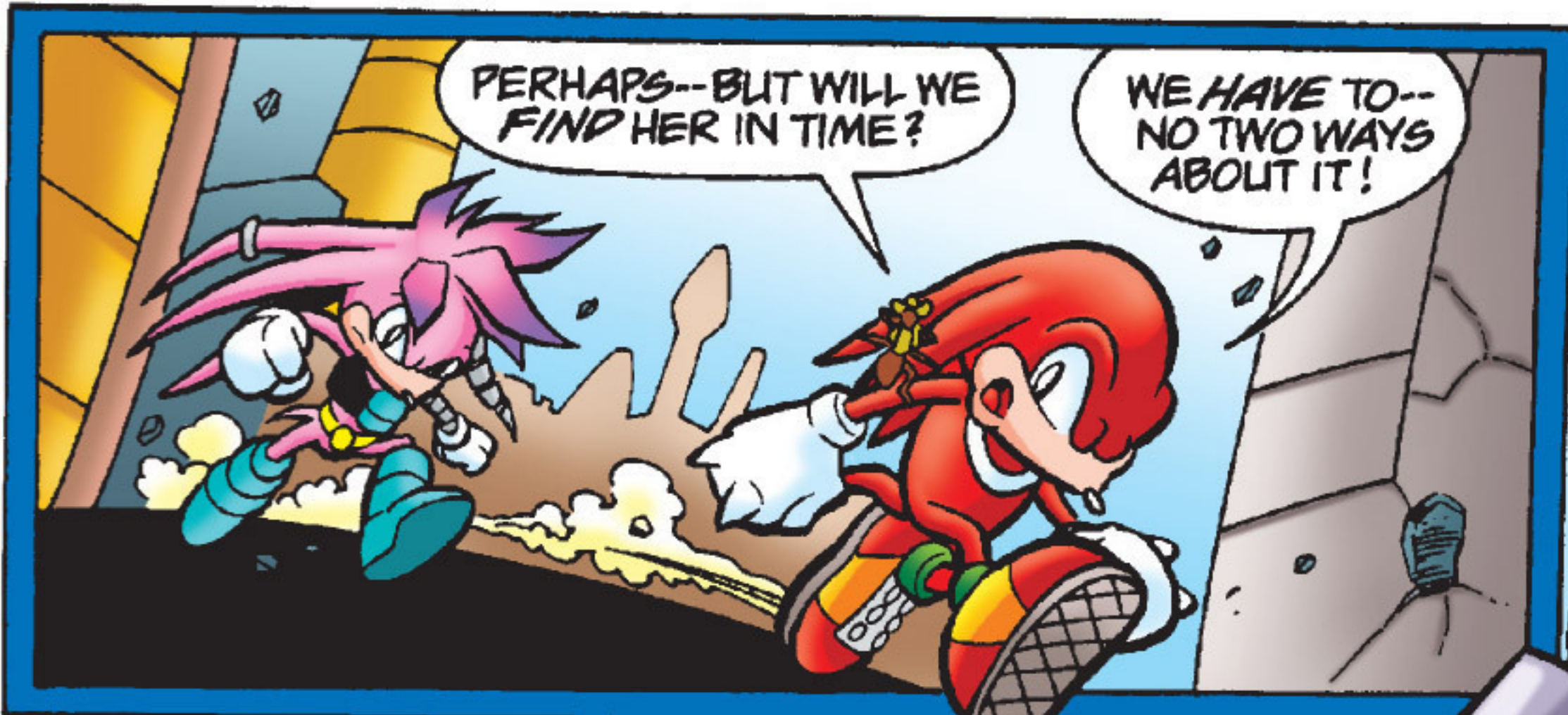
KNUC-- UGGH!

KRAKAAH KROOON!



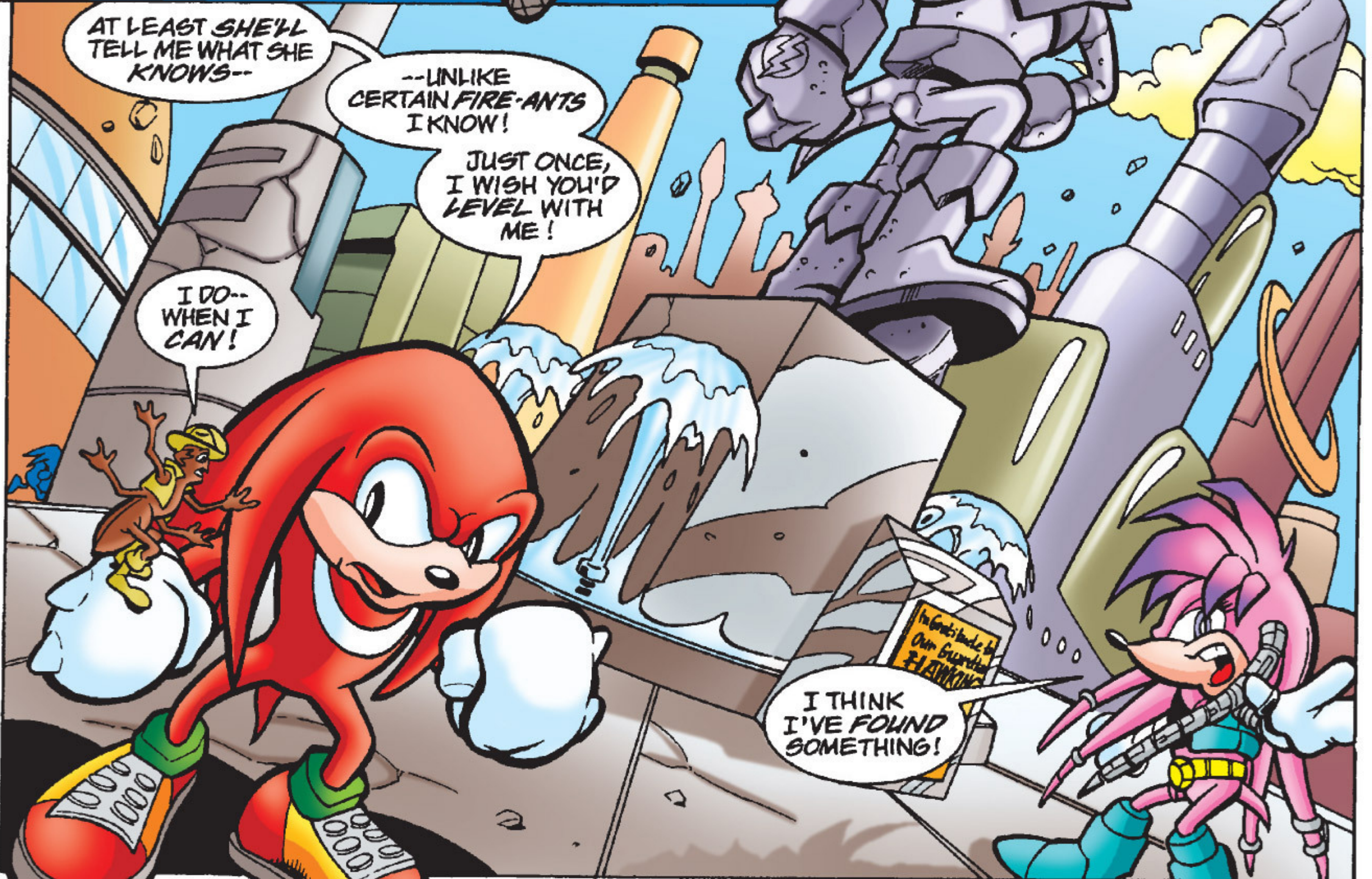






PERHAPS-- BUT WILL WE FIND HER IN TIME?

WE HAVE TO-- NO TWO WAYS ABOUT IT!



AT LEAST SHE'LL TELL ME WHAT SHE KNOWS--

--UNLIKE CERTAIN FIRE-ANTS I KNOW!

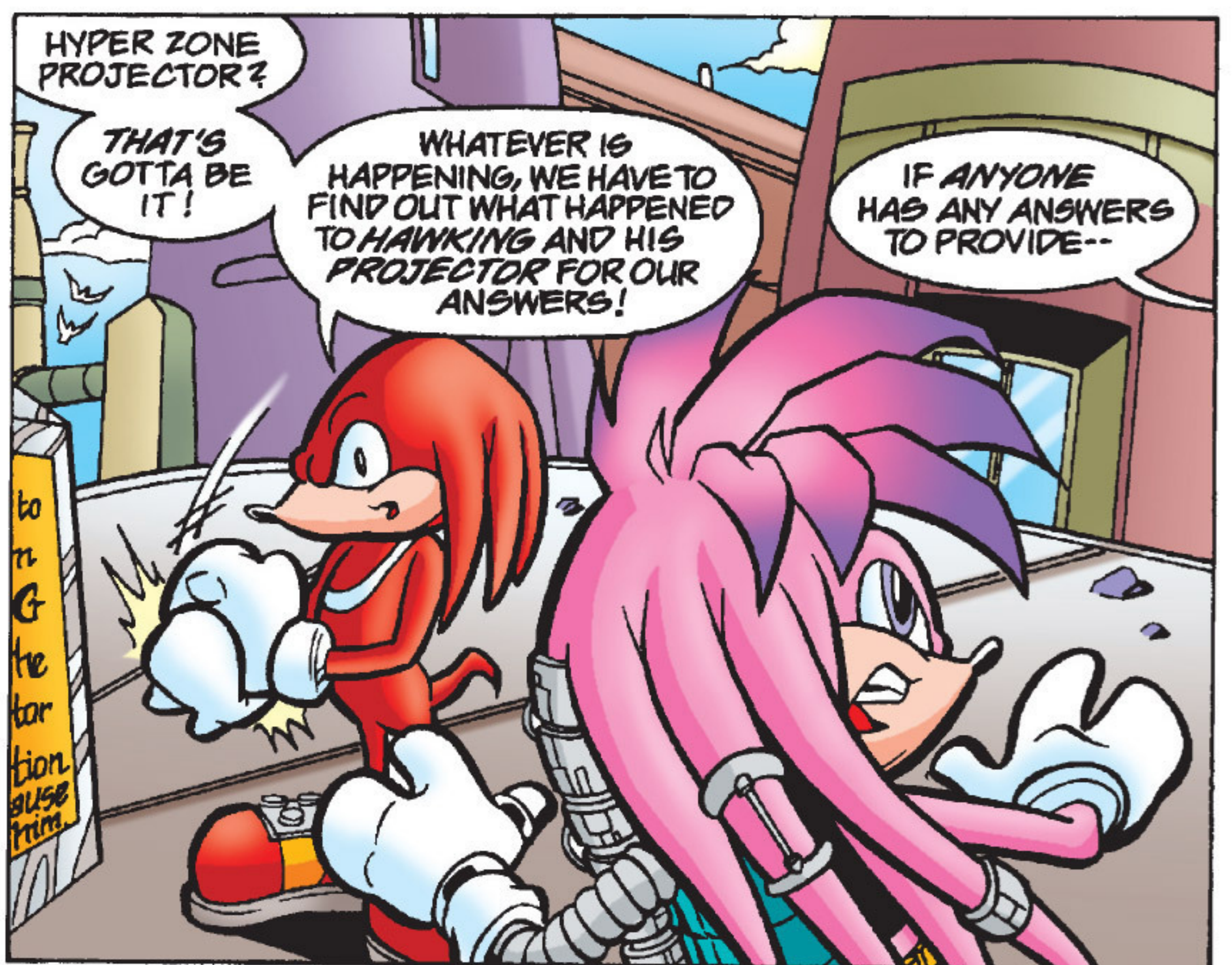
JUST ONCE, I WISH YOU'D LEVEL WITH ME!

I DO-- WHEN I CAN!

I THINK I'VE FOUND SOMETHING!



In Gratitude to our Guardian **HAWKING** Creator of the Hyper Zone Projector Our Civilization Endures Because Of him



HYPER ZONE PROJECTOR?

THAT'S GOTTA BE IT!

WHATEVER IS HAPPENING, WE HAVE TO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED TO HAWKING AND HIS PROJECTOR FOR OUR ANSWERS!

IF ANYONE HAS ANY ANSWERS TO PROVIDE--

--YOU THREE
HAD BETTER COME
UP WITH SOME PRETTY
QUICK!



**TO BE
CONTINUED...**
(AS IF YOU COULDN'T GUESS!)